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Mandela seeks Swiss help

GENEVA (R) — Nelson Mandela said Saturday he saw encouraging signs that Switzerland would join the rest of the world and apply sanctions against South Africa. The black nationalist leader told a meeting of Swiss parliamentarians in Bern Friday that Switzerland was the world's only country not to have joined the boycott of South Africa. "We need every country, with a view that a new perception has taken place in the Swiss government is concerned," he said. Mandela, who was released from prison after 27 years in jail, is on a 13-nation tour aimed at persuading world leaders to keep up economic pressure against South Africa until apartheid is abolished. Thabo Mbeki, the African National Congress (ANC) foreign affairs spokesman who is with Mandela, declined to specify what sanctions Switzerland could apply. "It's up to the Swiss government to answer that question, I cannot predict what it will do but we are hopeful it will happen," he told a news conference.

Liberians agree to peace talks

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — The government and rebels have agreed to discuss a settlement of their five-month-old war in talks mediated by the Liberian Council of Churches, the government and council said Saturday. A government source, who declined to be further identified, said the talks would begin Monday at the U.S. embassy in Freetown in neighbouring Sierra Leone. The government radio confirmed President Samuel Doe had agreed to send a delegation. There was no immediate comment by rebels. Neither the government nor council statement mentioned a ceasefire in the war, which already has claimed an estimated 1,000 lives, mostly civilians, since rebels invaded from the Ivory Coast on Dec. 24. Rebel leader Charles Taylor, a former Doe aide who accuses the president of corruption and mismanagement, reportedly has insisted Doe leave Liberia before his insurgents would participate in negotiations. Doe said last week he would send representatives to peace talks if they could be arranged by the church group. But Doe said he will not leave the country, though he has agreed not to run for another term in the October 1991 presidential election.

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Muscat may host Iran-Iraq talks

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The government of Oman, which has good relations with both Iran and Iraq, has offered its good offices to help settle the Iran-Iraq war and break the deadlocked peace talks, according to U.N. diplomats. Oman's U.N. charge d'affaires, Izzat Ben Sabael Al Zaidy, delivered a letter from his government's foreign ministry on Thursday to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar about the Iran-Iraq stalemate, diplomats said. U.N. officials confirmed that a letter had been delivered, but declined to divulge the contents. Officials of the Oman mission said only that a letter had been conveyed. But diplomats from the region said that the letter concerned Oman's possible good offices. They said that the government of Oman was considering Muscat, the capital, as a site for new talks between Iran and Iraq and involving the secretary-general. It was not known if Muscat was formally proposed as a site for talks.

U.S. restates policy on 'transfer'

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The U.S. State Department was asked Friday whether the U.S. has a position on the "transfer" of Palestinians from the occupied territories. "U.S. policy on this issue is longstanding," the State Department said. "We continue to believe that any attempt by Israel to transfer Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza is a unilateral act that seeks to determine the status of those territories. The United States would oppose such a transfer. Such a policy would not provide a solution to the problem, nor would it bring negotiations any closer."

158,000 in S. Arabia for pilgrimage

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia said Saturday that 158,000 Muslims had already arrived in the country for the annual pilgrimage to the Holy Cities of Mecca and Medina next month. The Saudi Press Agency (SPA) carried the official announcement without giving an estimated total number of pilgrims expected at this year's Hajj. Last year more than 1.5 million pilgrims performed the annual rite.

S. Africa frees 28 political prisoners

CAPE TOWN (R) — South Africa freed 28 political prisoners Saturday, apparently as part of a pledge this week by President F.W. de Klerk to ease a national state of emergency. The prisoners, who had been held on Robben Island, arrived in Cape Town and were transferred to a church-run reception centre in the city. Most had terms of less than 18 months to serve when they were released, having been sentenced for offences ranging from treason and sabotage to sedition.

Yacht sinks after collision in Greece

ATHENS (R) — A yacht with 23 Austrian and West German tourists on board collided with a ship near Athens on Saturday and sank, a merchant marine spokesman said. One woman was killed, two passengers were injured and one was missing, the spokesman said. The yacht Agria, sailing for the island of Serifos with the tourists and a Greek crew of four, collided with the coastal cargo ship Anastasia K off Point Sounion south of Athens, he said.

Soviet youth hijacks plane

STOCKHOLM (AP) — A Soviet youth using a fake hand grenade hijacked a Soviet airliner to Stockholm's international airport Saturday and surrendered to police, officials said. The alleged hijacker, 17-year-old Dmitry Semionov, told interrogators he decided to leave the Soviet Union after his parents kicked him out of their home, according to Barry Ivansson, a police inspector at Arlanda international airport, located 40 kilometres north of Stockholm.

Qasem: New Israeli coalition setback for peace

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Efforts for peace in the Middle East have been dealt a serious setback by the formation of the new right-wing government in Israel, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem said Saturday.

The government formed by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, "will have negative effects in the region and it's a setback for all peace efforts," Qasem was quoted as saying by the Associated Press.

"In its current formula and with Shamir's statements of his government's policies, all hopes for a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East are destroyed," Qasem told the AP during a break in a session of the Lower House of Parliament.

The foreign minister also said that "if the United States decides not to continue talks with the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization), this is going to be interpreted as additional American support for the hostile policies of the Israeli government."

"This is not to the benefit of the U.S. administration," he added. Shamir Friday formed a coalition government pledged to "uproot" the 30-month-old Palestinian uprising and to permit additional Jewish settlement in the occupied territories.

The new government led by Shamir's Likud bloc also ruled out any talks with the PLO.

The head of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lower House expressed scepticism that Israel's rightist government would affect U.S. policy even if it blocks peace efforts.

"The Americans are too cowardly to do anything, no matter what Israel does," said former Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri.

He said that if Shamir wins a vote of confidence, "this is really a very dangerous cabinet because it consists of... the most extremist politicians in Israel."

He said if the government stays in power for some time, "there is a real danger to Jordan" because "it is the policy of the Israeli government to push Palestinians out of their territory" into Jordan.

Palestinians expect more Israeli repression

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians shut themselves in their homes Saturday, marking 30 months of revolt in the occupied territories amid fears for the future under Israel's new right-wing government.

Streets were deserted throughout the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Arab Jerusalem as a general strike closed businesses and halted transport.

"Nothing is moving except army vehicles," reported a resident of Nablus, a West Bank town under curfew since soldiers shot and killed two teenagers Monday.

The strike was widely observed in the Gaza Strip, home to 650,000 Palestinians. Residents said soldiers patrolled empty streets.

Palestinian analysts predict increased violence on both sides under the most right-wing government in Israeli history. But some also expect a short-term lull.

Palestinian philosopher Sari Nusseibeh says that within a month or two Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens will lose control of policy to the hawkish majority in the cabinet.

"The dynamic of the new government will crystallise towards the Sharon school of thought," he said referring to former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon, tipped to become housing minister.

A general strike to mark the anniversary was called by the unified leadership of the uprising in its regular underground directives.



Arabs urge U.S. to tie aid to Israel with peace efforts

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Arab leaders have sent an official letter calling on the United States administration to tie aid to Israel to the Jewish state's cooperation with Middle East peace moves.

A text of the letter, handed last Monday to Robert Pelletreau, U.S. ambassador in Tunis where the Arab League is headquartered, was made available to the Associated Press in Cyprus Saturday.

"The Arab countries expect the United States to make a link between aid extended to Israel and Israel's cooperation with peace efforts. Such a step would restore credibility to the U.S. Middle East policy and start a new era in the history of Arab-American relations," the letter said.

The letter also called on the United States to adopt "practical steps" to keep Israel from using U.S. aid to set up new settlements for Jewish emigrants in the occupied territories.

The Arab League letter, drafted on instructions from the Arab summit meeting in Baghdad May 28-30, was in answer to a letter to the summit by the administration of President George Bush.

The U.S. letter called on the Arab leaders to avoid criticism of the United States and endorse the concept of peace with Israel through direct negotiations instead of an immediate international peace conference.

The Arab reply said criticism of the United States could be stopped "if the United States first dropped its totally biased policy towards Israel."

"How is it possible to tackle the Palestinian problem and the Israeli rejection of international peace efforts without a mention of the role of the United States which blocks international condemnation and punishment of Israel by an almost regular use of the veto power," the letter said.

Most recently the United States vetoed a U.N. Security Council resolution calling for an observer mission to Israel to look into the treatment of Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The Arab letter called again for convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East and asked the United States as a superpower and Security Council member to support "this serious drive to establish peace."

The Arab reply would trade peace and recognition for land, with Israel giving up the occupied territories so a Palestinian state could be set up. Israel has refused such a deal.

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Hrawi said to have failed to obtain arms from Arabs

TUNIS (Agencies) — Lebanese President Elias Hrawi has failed in efforts to obtain arms during a three-country tour of North Africa sources in the president's delegation, said Saturday.

Hrawi is in Tunis for talks with Arab League Secretary General Chadi Kibi and President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali after visits to Libya and Egypt.

Jordan marks two national anniversaries

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Sunday celebrates the Great Arab Revolt and Army Day anniversaries commemorating the endeavours of the leaders of the Great Arab Revolt and their armed forces in their struggle to achieve liberation, unity and independence for the Arab Nation.

A statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the revolt, led by Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali, broke out in 1916 to bring liberation and freedom for all Arabs from colonial rule.

The statement paid tribute to the sacrifices made by the Hashemite leaders towards national causes in general and Palestine in particular and said these leaders continued the struggle regardless of the arbitrary measures of the then British colonial rule.

It said that the late King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein was able to save large parts of Palestine and East Jordan from British-Zionist plans for the implementation of the Balfour Declaration.

In the commitment to the principles of the Great Arab Revolt, King Abdullah responded to the will and desires of the peoples on both banks of the River Jordan for unity, thus taking an important step towards an overall unity among Arab states, the statement noted.

It said that the East-West Bank unity of 1950 serves as an example to other Arab states and constituted a nucleus for pan-Arab unity. The Great Arab Revolt's principles, the statement said, serve as a course of action for Arabs seeking to pool their resources and their potential to enhance Arab solidarity.

It said that the Jordanian Armed Forces would continue to serve as a shield, protecting the Arab Nation from aggression and from external dangers.

Petra said that the formation of the People's Army in Jordan was another measure intended to enhance the country's defence capabilities.

On the Great Arab Revolt and Army Day all government departments and public institutions remain closed.

Higher Council to rule who is empowered to retire audit bureau chief

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Lower House of Parliament Saturday held the second meeting of its current extraordinary session and focused its attention on a temporary law on the higher court of justice as referred to it by the Legal Committee and the question of terminating the services of Audit Bureau Chief Hashem Al Dabbas.

The House endorsed the eighth article of the higher court of justice law but decided to refer the ninth article to Minister of Justice Youssef Mbeideen and the chairman of the Legal Committee.

However, the question of retiring Dabbas was referred to the Higher Council for the interpretation of the Constitution. The move was taken following a debate in which Prime Minister Mudar Badran and at least one deputy took part.

In referring to the motion for retiring Dabbas, the prime minister drew the House's attention to the Fifth Article of the Audit Bureau Law which states that its chief is appointed by a Royal Decree upon recommendation from the Cabinet and the decision is usually conveyed to the Lower House of Parliament.

He said that the audit bureau chief's mandate cannot be terminated, and he cannot be transferred to another position or retired nor can any penalties be imposed on him without the approval of the Lower House of Parliament, if it is in session, or with the King's approval upon a recommendation by the Council of Ministers should the House be in recess.

Badran said Article 119 of the Constitution states that the audit bureau is established to monitor the state's revenues and expenditure. The law stipulates also that the audit bureau chief should submit to Parliament a general report including violations if any but that the bureau chief should enjoy immunity, he noted.

Therefore, the prime minister said, retiring requires the House's approval since the House is now in session.

But Deputy Hussein Mjalli countered by reminding the House that no topic could be discussed in the session except for those items included in the Royal Decree which summoned the House to convene as of the beginning of June.

To avoid a deadlock, the House decided that the issue be referred to the Higher Council for the interpretation of the Constitution.

At the end of the session, House Speaker Suleiman Arar announced that the next meeting will be held Saturday.

On the Occasion of the Anniversary of The Great Arab Revolt and Army Day

has the honour to convey to

HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN

and the Jordanian People its felicitations and best wishes.

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Arab media see new Israeli cabinet pushing region to war

NICOSIA (R) — Arab commentators said Saturday the formation of the most right-wing government in Israel's history was pushing the Middle East towards a new war.

"The PLO called it a 'war cabinet' and the United States came under attack over its support for Israel."

"With the formation of a new government which includes the most extreme rightists who call for war, expulsion, expansion and colonialism, the situation in the Middle East is sliding towards more tension," said Jordan's Al Dustour newspaper.

"The Arab-Israeli conflict has quickly taken a path that leads only to war and instability."

Sawt Al Shaab, which often reflects the views of the Jordanian government, also said the Middle East was heading for an explosion.

"The Arab states must realise these dangers and brace for the ugly option of a new war imposed

on the Arab Nation. Praising peace does not mean dropping our weapons and burying our heads in the sand," it said.

Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir announced a new government Friday dominated by hawkish advocates of increased Jewish settlement in the occupied areas, scene of a 30-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule.

"It is a war cabinet, the worst in Israel's history, and represents the summit of fanaticism, intransigence and extremism," Salah Khalaf, a top official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), told Reuters in Tunis.

"We expect fresh massacres against the Palestinian people from this government," said Khalaf, also known as Abu Iyad in the PLO's mainstream Fatah

movement.

In Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates semi-official newspaper Al Ittihad said: "While not dropping the olive branch, the Arab Nation should not forget the language of war because it is not through diplomacy alone that liberation can be achieved."

"The present climate in Israel, reflected by the new cabinet, pushes the region more and more to a state of war," the daily Oman wrote in an editorial.

Qatar's Al Rava newspaper said Arab efforts to regain territories occupied by Israel in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war should not only focus on politics.

"The winds of racial fanaticism in the Zionist entity (Israel) have eliminated any hope for a peaceful settlement," it said.

Saudi Arabia's Okaz newspaper said the new cabinet meant more repression against Palestinians "who will be expelled from their lands to be replaced by

Jews."

Israel expects up to 250,000 Soviet Jews this year and the Jewish agency says 1.1 million Soviet Jews had received immigration visas.

Arabs fear many will settle in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, home for some 1.75 million Palestinians.

Most papers blamed the United States, Israel's main ally, for the hardline policy as outlined by the new cabinet.

"The United States, which goes along with Israeli crimes and supplies it with the means of oppression, terrorism and expansion, is responsible for this change that will push the Middle East, with all the weapons of mass destruction it has, into a new confrontation," Al Dustour said.

Bahrain's Al Adwa newspaper, referring to "the drums of war," asked if reason was still applicable in dealing with U.S. policy.

Iran looks for ways out of Khomeini's legacy

By Eric Hall
Reuters

TAHRAN — Iran's renewed demand for the death of British author Salman Rushdie underlines how the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's legacy overshadows government efforts to open up foreign policy.

Iranian political analysts say the need to refer constantly to Khomeini's ideas and principles is a major obstacle to better relations with the West and the Soviet Union.

"The government has to be able to say that it is staying within the path set by Khomeini," a Western diplomat said.

Khomeini, the spiritual leader who headed the Islamic revolution that toppled the Shah in 1979, died last June, leaving a legacy of extreme antagonism towards the United States which he always called the "great Satan".

He preached that taking aid from the West was demeaning and anti-Islamic. Islam should be the guiding force of all policy.

The government's room for manoeuvre is limited for two reasons, Western and Iranian analysts say. First, because its

authority rests on the awe and respect Khomeini still inspires.

Second, as soon as it even appears to deviate from these principles, the radical Islamic revolutionaries who form a kind of opposition within parliament as well as many traditional, less worldly Muslim clerics cry Khomeini's legacy is being polluted.

In Britain's case, Khomeini's 1989 death decree against Rushdie for blaspheming Islam in his book (The Satanic Verses) typifies how this legacy overshadows current policies, diplomats say.

Part of the Western media took this to mean Iran might be willing to drop the decree. This hint Iran might stray from Khomeini's path caused a political earthquake in Tehran.

The tremors ended Tuesday when Khomeini's successor as supreme religious leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, said the decree would never be lifted and Rushdie should be handed to British Muslims for execution.

The need to refer to Khomeini has created situations in which analysts are left scratching their heads and trying to remember exactly what he did say, or did allow.

Relations with the Soviet Union have also followed an erratic path.

Just before he died, Khomeini sent a letter to President Mikhail Gorbachev, opening a new line of communication with a country he had always called the "second great Satan".

After Khomeini died, Rafsanjani quickly flew to Moscow to mend political ties and sign broad economic agreements.

"He could not have done that without Khomeini's letter," a diplomat in Tehran said.

But later in the year, during ethnic and religious unrest in the mainly Muslim republics of the southern Soviet Union, Iran issued several statements criticising Moscow, supporting the Islamic nature of the unrest and generally undermining some of the progress made in developing ties.

Tehran steps most carefully in moves towards the United States. Iranian officials say Washington made it more difficult by not responding to Iranian overtures, such as recent mediation that secured the release of two American hostages in Lebanon.

Inside Iran, the government is still testing the political climate. Just after one U.S. hostage was released, a senior Iranian legal official suggested in a newspaper article direct talks with Washington would not be a totally bad idea.

Khamenei swiftly replied that anyone saying that must be mad, or naive. But he then apologised, saying he did not mean the official was mad.

Rafsanjani finally said there were to be no direct talks for now. Diplomats said that in the convoluted world of Iranian politics, this indicated the climate was not as cold as it might be.

Traces of arsenic found in former hostage's system

BOSTON (AP) — High levels of the poison arsenic were found in freed hostage Frank Reed shortly after his return to the United States from Lebanon, hospital officials said Friday.

Reed, 57, has been undergoing treatment at a military hospital since shortly after his release on April 30. He spent 44 months as a captive of pro-Iranian Shi'ite Muslim extremists.

Sixteen Westerners are still missing and believed held hostage in Lebanon. They include six Americans, four Britons, two West Germans, two Swiss, an Italian and an Irishman.

The arsenic showed up in a routine test by doctors treating Reed at Malcolm Grow Medical Centre at Andrews Air Force Base outside Washington.

"These tests were performed on Mr Reed's arrival. The initial test for arsenic was positive. Subsequent tests confirmed this exposure to arsenic and its elimination to a non-toxic level," the hospital said.

Reed's arsenic levels were abnormally high, according to Reed's attorney, Bob Woolf.

"This was beyond what was

normal, believe me," Woolf said.

Woolf declined to comment on the possible source of the arsenic. He said some of the poison had been eliminated from Reed's body since he began medical treatment, but traces remained.

"It's not completely out of his system, but now it's at a controlled, non-toxic level," Woolf said.

Peggy Say, sister of hostage Terry Anderson, said she was appalled by the news — and worried about what it might mean.

"I was absolutely sickened at the thought that one can assume that if Frank Reed had serious amounts of arsenic in his system, that this would also hold true for the other hostages," Ms. Say said by telephone.

Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press, was taken hostage March 16, 1985. Reed said he was held with Anderson for a time.

"If the arsenic poisoning is deliberate, it is the worst kind of barbarism," Ms. Say said. "If it is not deliberate, they are apparently living in conditions in which their surroundings are putting this arsenic into their systems. Either way, it is an extremely

serious problem."

An expert at the Massachusetts Poison Centre said trace amounts of arsenic could get into a person's system from water and food, especially seafood. In addition to being a poison, arsenic is used in wood preservatives, pesticides and some other products.

The attorney said Reed was surprised to learn of the poisoning.

"It was a little shocking and frightening for him," Woolf said. "This was serious and totally unexpected."

He added that it was unclear how the poison would affect Reed's long-term health. Reed was gaunt and weak after his release.

"We still don't know what all the ramifications are," Woolf said. "But he seems to be coming along fine. He's gaining weight and I'm hopeful he'll be released in a few weeks."

Reed was the director of the private Lebanese International School in Beirut when he was abducted in 1986. After his release, he said he had been beaten when he tried to escape and was chained and blindfolded for months at a time.

PLF plans hang glider attacks on Israel

AMMAN (R) — A Palestinian guerrilla leader whose group tried to raid Israel by sea last month plans to attack again, using hang gliders.

In an interview published Saturday by the Jordanian daily Sawt Al Shaab, Mahmoud Abbas said his Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) would keep up what he called the armed struggle against Israel.

"The next attack will be carried out by hang gliders and will cover many sectors... the coast, the interior, the north and the south," Abu Abbas, nom de guerre of Abbas, was quoted as saying.

Sawt Al Shaab did not say when or where the interview took place.

A powered hang glider was used in November 1987 in one of the most lethal guerrilla attacks on the Jewish state.

A solitary member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command penetrated Israel from Lebanon and killed six Israeli soldiers before being shot dead by one of more than half a dozen wounded in the attack.

The PLF, a small faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), is based in Baghdad. It used two one-man hang gliders in an unsuccessful attack on Israel from South Lebanon in 1981.

Abbas is wanted in the United States for a PLF hijacking of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro in 1985.

Abbas said the seaborne raid on Israel last month was the start of military action to complement a 30-month-old Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israeli troops foiled the attack, killing four guerrillas and capturing 12. There were no Israeli casualties.

The PLF says the target was a beach resort for Israeli officers.

The raid brought renewed calls from Israel for Washington to end its dialogue with the PLO, which began after PLO leader Yasser Arafat renounced terrorism in December 1988.

Arafat has dissociated himself from the PLF attack, but has not condemned it, contrary to American and European advice.

Saudi Arabia opposes early action on greenhouse gases

GENEVA (R) — Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, has emerged as a formidable opponent of early action to arrest the greenhouse effect, environmentalists say.

The Saudis, who would stand to lose in the short term if the world cut oil consumption to try to slow global warming, raised repeated objections at U.N. negotiations in Geneva this week on the greenhouse effect, the ecologists said.

"They are raising objections at every single point," said one British environmentalist observing a working group meeting, which was asked to recommend a plan of action to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The environmentalists said Saudi Arabia, which in previous meetings had not put up obstacles, had effectively formed an unlikely alliance with the United States, China and the Soviet Union in resisting early reduction goals for greenhouse gases.

"Just when the science on global warming and its implications have become firmer, the political resolve to take appropriate action has weakened in some quarters," commented observer Paul Hohnen of the Greenpeace organisation.

Delegates said European and other nations had urged that negotiations begin soon on protocols, or diplomatic agreements, to reduce specific greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide and methane. Burning of oil, gas and coal produces carbon dioxide.

Such gases trap the Earth's heat like greenhouse glass when they soar to the upper atmosphere, with the consequent risk of major flooding as oceans rise. Rainfall and crop yields could change disastrously.

The Saudi, American, Chinese and Soviet delegations effectively rejected the idea of deciding on early negotiations on protocols.

Instead, the working group decided more vaguely that the time and form of such negotiations, if any, should be decided by the U.N. General Assembly, delegates said.

The IPCC's working group on science has said the world should cut its output of carbon dioxide by up to 80 per cent, but the strategies working group in Geneva did not make any such strong recommendations.

The science group predicted that if no action were taken the global climate would rise by 0.3 degrees Celsius (0.54 degree Fahrenheit) every decade for the next century.

The Geneva meeting demonstrated how difficult it will be to obtain eventual agreement on global action.

Oil exporters might not in the end be able to block such action on their own, but ecologists said they were already making it more difficult.

Many poorer nations like China wanted to protect their right to promote economic development which often entails the emission of carbon dioxide and other gases.

They are by no means unanimous. Countries like low-lying Bangladesh and the Maldives will be partly or totally flooded if the polar icecaps melt, and others are aware of the dangers of sections of their countries becoming dustbowls.

The Bush administration has argued that more scientific proof of the greenhouse effect is needed before costly measures are taken.

Nevertheless, it has issued an invitation for some time next year for the negotiation of an overall framework agreement on climate change to which specific protocols would be attached.

Tunisia democracy stalled by opposition poll boycott

TUNIS (R) — The democratic process launched two years ago by Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali appears stalled with all opposition groups boycotting municipal elections due Sunday.

During the electoral campaign, state television has been calling on voters to choose their representatives, but in 228 out of 245 municipalities only the ruling party is fielding candidates.

In the other 17 municipalities, voters have a choice between candidates of the ruling Constitutional Democratic Assembly (RCD) and independents most of whom are defectors from the RCD.

Political analysts say the size of the turnout and number of abstentions will indicate the RCD's ability to mobilise voters.

"Voting is a right but also a duty. Failure to do one's duty shows lack of civil and patriotic spirit," said Mustapha Bouazziz, minister of state domains, at an election rally Friday.

Six legal opposition parties and the Nahdha Islamic fundamentalist group, which is not officially authorised, announced a boycott although they took part in last year's legislative elections.

The RCD won all the seats in parliament in the April 1989 elections. The opposition charged

there were irregularities and complained that the RCD dominated the administration which organised the poll.

They say there are insufficient democratic guarantees in the municipal polls, and their boycott is also a protest against delays in introducing reforms.

The government says it has reformed the voting system to enable opposition candidates to win seats on municipal councils and the boycott is merely intended to hide the opposition's weakness.

"The opposition prefers to dodge the issue due to lack of confidence in its supporters and fear of responsibility, and to make believe that non-voters are their's," said Ahmad Khaled, culture and information minister, in a speech Thursday.

Some independents including RCD defectors have charged they have been subject to "administrative vexations" which prevented them campaigning properly.

In Rades, a suburb of Tunis, independent Soufiane Ibn Hamida said he was withdrawing because of the vexations. In Monastir in the south an ex-RCD group led by Ahmad Jemmal said it was not allowed to use public halls for meetings.

The RCD plans to discipline defectors and expel them from the party.

2 explosions reported in Somali presidential palace

MOGADISHU (R) — Two powerful explosions ripped through the palace compound of Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre Friday night, the president's press secretary said Saturday.

Ahmad Hassan Awke said on state radio that the explosions were accidental and that an investigation was under way. He gave no further details of damage or casualties.

Government officials and diplomats could not be immediately contacted by telephone from Nairobi for further information.

A local report said the explosions, possibly caused by artillery shells already in the compound, could be heard several kilometres away.

Nearby residents were said to have panicked and some fled their homes while motorists and pedestrians ran for cover.

Somalia, which is situated in the Horn of Africa, has been torn by economic and social problems but a new government appointed in February said it would try to end its multiple internal conflicts.

Several rebel groups have been trying to overthrow Siad Barre since the 1978 Ogaden war when Somalia attacked the Ogaden region of neighbouring Ethiopia, an area mainly inhabited by ethnic Somalis.

Friday night's explosions came two weeks after a powerful device exploded inside the U.S. embassy compound but according to U.S. officials there were no casualties or damage.

Police are still investigating that explosion, for which no one has claimed responsibility.

Greece urges U.S. to push for Turkish pullout from Cyprus

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Greek leader has called on the United States to pressure Turkey to withdraw its troops from Cyprus, calling the military presence a "blot on the reputation" of the NATO defence alliance.

Greek Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis made the comments in Washington during a visit in which he met Wednesday with President George Bush. The talks at the White House were the first by a Greek leader in 26 years.

Mitsotakis also pledged that his newly elected New Democracy Party would rid his nation of anti-American terrorism, which had continued during the previous Socialist government of Andreas Papandreu.

"My government intends to end the friction in relations with Washington that was evident during the eight years of Socialist rule in Greece," he said.

U.S. officials say relations with Greece have already improved

since the election of the conservative prime minister last April.

Mitsotakis called the Turkish troops on the Mediterranean island a continuing "blot" against "the entire Western alliance" following the Soviet pullout from Afghanistan and South Africa's exit from Namibia.

He delivered the message to Bush and other U.S. leaders. Later he addressed members of the Greek community at a National Press Club luncheon before departing for New York.

Turkey invaded the Mediterranean island in 1974 in what it called a move to protect the Cypriot Turkish community from the Greek majority, and Cyprus has been partitioned since — with a U.N. force keeping the peace.

"The members of NATO, and especially the United States, can do much to end the Cyprus crisis and the time is now," Mitsotakis said.

U.N. efforts begun last year to start peace talks between the

sides have failed to progress.

The United States has refused to involve itself in the dispute between Greece and Turkey, both members of the 16-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), preferring to let the U.N. mediate.

But Bush discussed the issue at a White House luncheon this week with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Meanwhile, the Greek premier said his government would decide before October whether to extradite Mohammad Rashid, a Palestinian wanted by the United States in connection with a 1982 jetliner bombing.

The case had been stalled by Papandreu's government, fearful of Palestinian retaliation if Rashid were extradited.

"In any case, we will never let Rashid free," Mitsotakis pledged, saying Rashid would either be handed over to the United States or tried in Greece.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programme
17:10 Football
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Local programme
18:20 Cultural programme
19:00 Local programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme review
21:40 Local programme
22:40 Varieties programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

17:50 Tel Fara Tel Fara
18:15 L'Ecole de l'été
19:00 News in French
19:15 French varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Hoy Dad
21:10 Doc. "Global Report"
21:45 News in English
22:00 World Cup: Brazil vs. Sweden

PRAYER TIMES

03:50 Fajr
05:25 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:35 Asr
16:15 Maghreb
19:45 Maghreb

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish, Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Sade Church Tel. 661757

Terraviva Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 623383

77261

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 77261

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 685326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654932

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology

Another drop in temperatures will occur and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly fresh and sea wavy.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Min./max. temp. 15/30

Aqaba 22/30

Jerusalem 18/37

Jordan Valley 19/36

Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 33, Aqaba 39. Humidity readings: Amman 22 per cent, Aqaba 14 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Anjad Nawras 781806

Dr. Subhi Tamara 838013

Dr. Tawfiq Qab'lan 623029

Dr. Issa Haddad 897007

Fine pharmacy 622520

Firdows pharmacy 783336

Al Asema pharmacy 637055

Nairoukh pharmacy 623672

Al Salama pharmacy 636730

Yacoub pharmacy 644945

Shamsi pharmacy 637660

AMMAN: Dr. Anjad Nawras 781806

Dr. Subhi Tamara 838013

Dr. Tawfiq Qab'lan 623029

Dr. Issa Haddad 897007



Prime Minister Mudar Badran Saturday receives Chinese Defence Minister Qin Jiwei and an accompanying delegation (Petra photo)

China backs Palestinians' struggle

AMMAN (J.T.) — China's Defence Minister Qin Jiwei said here Saturday that his country supports the Jordanian government's endeavours to achieve a just and durable settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

China also fully supports the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people to regain their legitimate rights, the minister said at a meeting with Prime Minister

Mudar Badran.

Qin, who arrived in Amman on Friday, said his country backs efforts for a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East conflict.

Badran thanked China for its support and backing of Arab efforts to reach a lasting peace and reiterated Jordan's call for a settlement through an international peace conference which

should be attended by all concerned parties including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The Prime Minister said that Israel's intransigent position and the creation of settlements in the occupied Arab lands continue to obstruct the peace process.

King pays tribute to Armed Forces

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a cable to Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleh thanking him for a cable of congratulations on the occasion of Army Day and the Great Arab Revolt anniversary.

King Hussein said in his cable that "this occasion is a reminder of the great duty Jordan is shouldering."

King Hussein asked Abu Taleh to convey his greetings to every member of the Armed Forces. "I hope you convey to all of them that they are a source of national pride for the people, and that they are on the advanced position of defending our existence and national future," the King said.

He added that the Armed Forces will remain "with their courageous stand in the heart of (King) Al Hussein and every Jordanian as the defenders of the fabrics of our national unity, our security and future and the Arab Order."

Pharmaceuticals aim for common market

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman will host a three-day meeting organised by the Arab federation of producers of drugs and medical appliances which will begin in Amman on June 18 under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The question of forming an Arab common market for pharmaceutical products will be the main theme of the meeting which will be attended by delegates from 10 Arab countries.

Delegates representing pharmaceutical industries in the Arab World and specialised agencies will also take part in the meeting.

The federation, which was established by a decision from the Arab health ministers in 1986, is affiliated to the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU).

It aims at ensuring medicine marketing for the Arab World through creating an Arab common market of drugs and medical appliances.

The announcement, by the Amman-based federation, came after a meeting by another CAEU-affiliated agency which concluded a general assembly meeting in Amman last Thursday.



KING MEETS AFP CHIEF: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday receives at Al Nadwa Palace Claude Moisy, chairman of the board of directors of Agence France Presse, and the King's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh. Over the past few days Moisy had presided over a meeting of AFP bureau chiefs in the area.

Soviet-Arab dialogue highly successful, participants report

MOSCOW (Petra) — A Soviet-Arab dialogue held last week in the Soviet capital constituted a successful channel of communication between the Arab Nation and the Soviet Union towards building common ground for cooperation in all matters of concern to the two sides, according to Upper House of Parliament member Laila Sharaf.

Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel was at the top of the agenda for the discussions, which covered a wide range of subjects of interest to the two sides, said Sharaf, who took part in the dialogue.

The Soviet Union welcomes all initiatives to help settle Jewish emigres in Europe, Australia, the United States and Canada and calls for speeding up efforts to find a lasting settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict that can ensure the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and their right

to an independent state of their own in their homeland, Sharaf said following the final session.

She said that the Soviet Union adopts a very clear stand with regard to Jewish immigrants. Moscow wants them to be settled away from the Israeli-occupied territories and wants international guarantees to this effect, she said. It also wants U.N. observer teams to ensure that this is done and the Security Council to take the initiative of reaffirming the Palestinian people's rights in their homeland, Sharaf added.

She said that the final communique issued in Moscow supported a proposal of placing the occupied Arab territories under international supervision pending a lasting settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In the final communique, the Soviet Union stressed the importance of Arab-Soviet cooperation, called on the Arab states to in-

crease their investments in the Soviet Union and reaffirmed bilateral cooperation in resolving regional conflicts, Sharaf said.

Another Jordanian participant in the dialogue, Dr. Jawad Al Anani, said the meeting, the third of its kind to be organised by the Arab Thought Forum in cooperation with organisations in the Soviet Union, said last month's extraordinary Arab summit has had its positive effect on the Soviet Union's stand with regard to Jewish immigration.

According to the final communique issued in Moscow, a total of 15 working papers were discussed by 50 prominent Soviet and Arab scholars, politicians, businessmen and statesmen.

The two sides reviewed democratic changes in the Soviet Union, Arab-Soviet economic cooperation, Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine and mass destruction weapons among other issues, according to the communique.

France assists Jordan in telecommunications

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan, together with other developing nations of the world, receive French assistance in telecommunications services and equipment designed to help transfer modern technology in this field, French Ambassador to Jordan Denis Bauchard said Saturday.

The ambassador, who was addressing the opening session of a three-week training seminar for participants from six Arab countries, voiced satisfaction with the level of Jordanian-French cooperation in technical training. The present training seminar, he said, is the result of bilateral cooperation.

Participants from Jordan, Yemen, Egypt, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon are taking part in the

seminar which was organised by the telecommunications authorities in Jordan and France, and the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation.

The 17 trainees will attend lectures and conduct theoretical and practical work in the field of telecommunications as related to work in television transmission and telephone communications.

Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Director-General Muhammad Shahid Ismail, who addressed the opening session, said that the present seminar was an opportunity not only for training but also for an exchange of expertise and ideas among the participants with a view to promoting telecommunications services.



AIR LINK WITH INDONESIA: Jordan and Indonesia Saturday opened talks prior to signing an agreement that would enable Royal Jordanian (RJ) and the Indonesian Airlines to open direct air transport routes between Amman and Jakarta. Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) officials said teams from the two sides were conducting talks for an initial agreement to be later officially approved and signed. Last year

Jordan had reached agreement with Indonesia to operate joint flights using RJ aircraft. The decision to open direct flights between Amman and Jakarta was taken during His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Indonesia in 1986. CAA Director-General Mahmood Balqaz is leading the Jordanian team to the talks expected to last two days.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

King congratulates Portugal

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a cable of congratulations to the Portuguese President Mario Soares in which he congratulated him in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people on his country's national day. King Hussein wished Soares continued good health and happiness and the Portuguese people further progress and prosperity.

Iraqi minister congratulates Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran received Saturday a cable from Iraqi Minister of Defence Lieutenant-General Abdul Jabbar Shamsal in which he congratulated him in his name and on behalf of the Iraqi Armed Forces on the anniversary of the Jordanian Armed Forces and the Great Arab Revolt. Shamsal wished Badran continued good health and happiness and the Armed Forces further progress. Badran sent a reply cable to Shamsal expressing his thanks and appreciation.

Zarqa seeks support for youth activities

ZARQA (Petra) — Managers of sports and cultural clubs and centres in Zarqa Saturday called for municipality's support. In a meeting with the chairman and members of the municipal council, the managers called for the municipality's care in youth affairs and called for establishing playgrounds and gymnasiums. Zarqa Mayor Yasser Al Omari expressed the municipality's readiness to serve the youth and support them.

70 stores closed down in Naour

NAOUR (Petra) — The Public Safety Committee in Naour district closed down 70 stores for not abiding by the public safety conditions, according to Naour Governor Naji Mahmoud. He added that the committee will continue its inspection tours in the district to guarantee that commodities are sold at the official prices.

Former minister dies

AMMAN (Petra) — Burhan Kamal, a former minister, passed away in Amman Saturday. Burhan has served as minister of transport and occupied a number of other important posts.

Pilgrim city ready in Maan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Maan Pilgrims City is now ready to receive pilgrims. The city is equipped with all facilities that pilgrims need and was enlarged in order to accommodate the yearly increasing number of pilgrims. Maan Municipality has assigned a number of its employees at Al Mudawara border post near Maan to offer the necessary services to the pilgrims.

Jordan to chair Arab industry talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will chair meetings of the ministerial council of the Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organisation to be held in Cairo June 20. Jordan's delegation to the meetings will be headed by Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Fariz. The meetings are scheduled to discuss working papers dealing with the means of preparing an Arab industrial coordination strategy and the means to promote industrial investment among Arab countries. The conference is also scheduled to discuss restructuring the organisation in the light of decisions taken by the Arab Economic and Social Council to merge the Arab Organisation for Mineral Resources, the Arab Industrial Development Organisation and the Arab Organisation for Specifications to constitute the Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organisation to be based in Baghdad.

More efficient banking systems can help investments—Jardaneh

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Saturday called for the creation of more developed and advanced banking and financial systems that can contribute to meaningful investments and the development process in the Arab World.

The Arab banking and financial systems should pioneer the process of development and should be backed by proper legislations to do their work, Minister of Finance Basel Jardaneh said in his opening address to a five-day symposium on "frauds and violations in banking" which opened Saturday at the Amman-based Arab Institute for Banking Studies (AIBS).

"Certain Arab countries have a surplus of funds which they wish to invest in the Arab World, but they require an efficient banking system that can help them do that," said Jardaneh, who deputised for Prime Minister Mudar Badran.

"Indeed the banking and finan-

cial operations constitute the cornerstone in matters related to socio-economic development," the minister added.

AIBS Director-General Abdul Aziz Al Saqqaf said that in order to protect funds entrusted in banks, a strict system should be imposed to prevent any wrong decisions and mismanagement that could be detrimental to the banks' operations and public funds. "Frauds and violations in banking came about as a result of lack of proper control and supervisory systems as well as centralisation, he added.

AIBS had commissioned experts to prepare detailed studies on what happened in each of the four banking mismanagement cases in the Arab World to bring out as much information as possible.

Saqqaf said he was hoping that the studies would help clarify how and why each of the cases was allowed to happen and what role

Central Bank's auditors and internal control departments played and should have played. The four cases are those of Souk Al Manakh in Kuwait, Al Rayyan and other Islamic and the Almasheek Bank in Qatar.

Saqqaf said it was also important that the Arab World introduce a system of handling such issues that often occur in all financial systems and which must be treated openly and settled responsibly.

Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Said Nabulsi delivered a speech at the first session dwelling on bank frauds and violations and ways to deal with them. At least 10 working papers will be reviewed by the 81 delegates from Jordan and 12 other Arab countries. AIBS, which was established in Amman in January 1989, is organising the symposium with the Union of Arab Banks (UAB).

Bush

(Continued from page 1)

community... this government represents the majority."

"We have proposed many times to the Arab World many peace proposals. We propose it again," he said.

Bush also said Friday he was considering breaking off talks with the PLO after a thwarted Palestinian attack on an Israeli beach.

Bush called on Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat to publicly renounce the attack and suggested the continuation of U.S.-PLO contacts depended on Arafat's response.

"Our dialogue is predicated on a renunciation of terror. In my view, this was sheer terror," Bush said.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

★ Exhibition of paintings depicting the Jordanian environment by Adel Al Sharaa, Mohammad Assad and Hani Khaza'leh at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.

★ Art exhibition by Rafiq Al Laham at the Royal Cultural Centre.

TURKISH FILM WEEK

★ Feature film entitled "Hurnuz with Seven Husbands" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

Pan-Arabists, liberals take lion's share of Ruseifeh municipal seats

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Quashing widespread speculation that organised Islamists were on a winning streak in regional and local council elections, political liberals and pan-Arabists have secured five seats in the nine-member municipal council in Ruseifeh, leaving two Islamist blocs with two each of the remaining seats.

The non-Islamist winners represented a "Labour Bloc" of centrist-liberals who secured two seats and a pan-Arabist Populist Bloc which won three. A "National Reform Bloc" did not win any seats at all in the elections, which were conducted Thursday and Friday in Ruseifeh, which lies northeast of Amman.

It was widely expected that Islamists would put up a strong showing in the elections, particularly after protests last month showed an increasing growth of Islamic fundamentalism in the city, which witnessed attacks on banks and restaurants serving alcohol in violence which followed demonstrations against the massacre of eight Palestinians by an Israeli gunman near Tel Aviv.

According to residents of the city, the violence was instigated by an underground Islamic group which has adopted a self-

styled name of "Islamic liberation party." The group is said to advocate strict implementation of Islamic laws and reportedly favours use of force to achieve this objective.

Officials had expressed concern that this group might have a strong power base in Ruseifeh, but the results of the municipal elections proved that the apprehension was at least partially unfounded.

Only 50.4 per cent of Ruseifeh's eligible electorate exercised their right to vote despite a 24-hour extension of the polling process. In addition, the fact that Islamists were grouped in two blocs also appeared to have undermined their chances in the elections.

According to several residents of the city, last month's violence has instilled fear among the population that hardline could consolidate itself if given power through the municipality.

"We are indeed Muslims and believe Islam should play a role in government and the Constitution, but we will not condone violence of the type we saw last month," said a Ruseifeh voter, who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity. "If we want breweries to be shut down, we can have done through legal means if enough people agree."

The last municipal council

election Ruseifeh had seen was seven years ago and people were appealed to have been encouraged by the Kingdom's parliamentary elections last November to campaign "a la Amman style." The campaign was thus costly for many of the candidates.

Most of Ruseifeh residents are employed by local industries located in the area, and are thought to be politically conservative. But locals who predicted that the municipality's large refugee population would result in a polarisation of the local council were proven correct.

"Ruseifeh turned out to be different from the other municipalities in voting in a more liberal council than expected. Maybe others will take the example to heart," concluded one public official.

The winners in the elections were: Musa Ali Saad (Labour Bloc) 4,046 votes; Dr. Majed Hatab (Iman Bloc) 2,690; Yousef Zaghoul (Islamic Labour Bloc) 2,358; Ahmad Issa Daher (Populist Bloc) 2,350; Ali Fahmawi (Iman Bloc) 2,346; Fawzi Khalifeh (Islamic Labour Bloc) 2,330; Abdul Rahim Al Ghadeer (Labour Bloc) 2,009; Khaled Massoud (Populist Bloc) 1,988; and Dr. Ali Antaki (Populist Bloc) 1,886.

Jordan, Iraq to cooperate in science

RAMTHA (Petra) — The Jordanian University of Science and Technology (JUST) and the Iraqi Saladdin University have concluded an agreement designed to launch cooperation and coordination in scientific and cultural fields.

The agreement covers an exchange of expertise and staff, joint research and supervising higher studies.

It also covers joint scientific seminars and conferences, publishing scientific research and articles, exchanging visits by students with the aim of encouraging scientific, social and sports activities.

ACC ministers of health urge need for cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — The four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries opened a two-day meeting in Amman Saturday to reach a formula for the implementation of a health agreement signed by health ministers of the four countries.

The meeting, held at the level of secretaries-general of health ministries in Jordan, Iraq, Yemen and Egypt, will deal with medical and health services, integration in pharmaceutical production, conducting joint drug imports and vaccines and unifying systems for the registration of drugs in the four-member countries.

According to Ministry of Health officials here, the four officials will exchange views on

cooperation in joint research work in drug production and health collaboration, issuing publications and printed materials in health affairs, exchanges of visits by specialists and cooperation in nursing.

The four officials will also explore ways for cooperation in combating contagious diseases and in training medical staff.

Dr. Adnan Abbasi, Ministry of Health secretary general, addressed the opening session in which he underlined the importance of cooperation in the field of health. The representatives of health ministries in Iraq, Egypt and Yemen also delivered speeches at the outset of the meeting.

Jordan Times

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Sunday's Economic Pulse

A case for higher travel tax

By Dr. Fahed Faneh

FRESH statistics showed that the number of Jordanians who travelled abroad during the 12 months ending in June 1989 was around 700,000, excluding Jordanian expatriates and their immediate families, and not counting those who reside outside Jordan for any reason.

The sample surveyed by the Department of Statistics indicated that the average duration of a resident Jordanian's trip abroad is 12 days, thus the Jordanian tourist's nights spent abroad may be in the order of 8.4 million each year.

The Department of Statistics estimated the expenditure

of the travelling Jordanian citizen abroad to be JD 11.8 a day. Even if we take into account that part of the travellers are children with low cost, and a major part stays with relatives and friends, we strongly feel that the figure picked up by the Department of Statistics is extremely low.

It could not possibly cover the average Jordanian traveller's expenses for accommodation, transportation, and shopping. We venture to suggest that such daily expense would not be less than JD 25 as a bare minimum.

Taking the estimate of the

department, the cost in foreign exchange would be in the neighbourhood of JD 100 million. However, applying our suggested daily rate, the outlays would be over JD 210 million a year. We definitely don't call for banning travel or even restricting it in any direct manner. Jordan is not a prison and should not be one, but the Jordanian economy and its limited resources cannot afford, under the current difficult circumstances, to pay \$300 million in foreign exchange to finance travel. Even an advanced and relatively rich economy of a country like France

did not leave travel without taxation, as a negative incentive.

Those who travel abroad may be of limited income groups, but they are not normally from the poor class. They are businessmen, tourists, students who afford to study abroad, or patients who would like to have foreign medical services, or pilgrims, or scientists and researchers who attend international conferences and present papers etc. All those groups are naturally well to do.

Therefore the current airport departure tax amounting

to JD 25 is no more sufficient to operate as an effective incentive to deter unnecessary travel. Perhaps the government should consider raising the tax to JD 100 or so. Such a step will result in some JD 50 million of extra revenue badly needed by the treasury. It may influence part of the would-be travellers to hesitate before making an unnecessary trip abroad, or at least leave less purchasing power to be spent abroad in hard currencies.

This is one suggested action. The other one may be to leave the current tax of JD 25 as is, but add JD 10 for each day

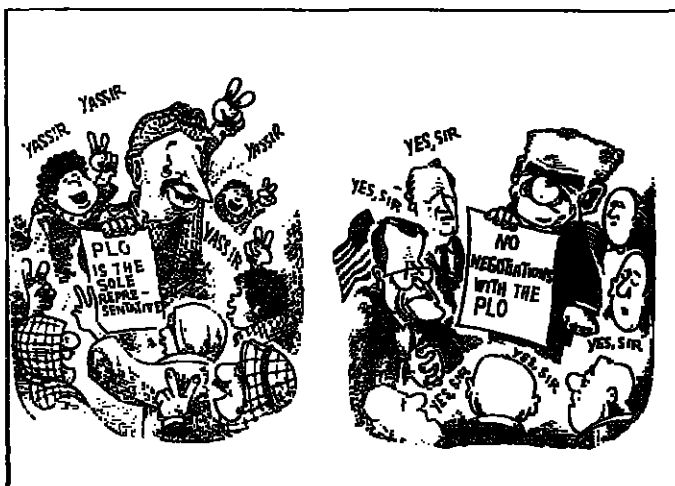
spent abroad, such a solution will not only suppress the tendency to travel, but may also work as an incentive to shorten the duration of the trips, and consequently reduce the expenses. Of course non-resident Jordanians should be exempted from the per diem.

It is evident that the majority of my fellow citizens will not like this suggestion, but I should warn that unless we accept reasonable sacrifice, like paying a higher tax for travelling abroad, we may find ourselves, later on, compelled to accept more painful sacrifices, such as no travel abroad.

Assurances do not change realities

NO AMOUNT of "guarantees" by Israel would change the impact and implications of massive Jewish immigration to that country. There are loud and clear restraints on any such offers of assurances, whether territorial, demographic and, above all, water resources. It is already projected that future Middle Eastern wars would be fought over water resources. That water is already scarce and barely sufficient for the needs of existing peoples of the region is a foregone conclusion long held by water experts. How then can any assurances given by Israel that hundreds of thousands of new Jewish immigrants would not pose any new dangers to the countries of the area be taken except with a grain of salt? The region's population is projected to increase by no less than three per cent annually and this by itself will tax the water problem to the limit. How then can an influx of hundreds of thousands of people to Israel be construed except as an added threat to the stability of the region?

In this vein, it will be recalled that the massive Jewish emigration to Palestine between the first and second world wars constituted the genesis of the Palestinian conflict in the first place. There is doubt that another wave of Jewish immigration would not only exacerbate the Arab-Israeli conflict but also effectively rule out any territorial compromise between the two sides. If Jewish immigration is to be tolerated within the context of a regional security arrangement that would include a final settlement of the Palestinian conflict in addition to a regional agreement on water resources, then and only then can new Jewish emigration be considered. But to allow the Israeli population to swell to five or six millions in the course of the coming few years would only make the outbreak of a major armed conflict in the Middle East an imminent development.



JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

AL RA'Y Saturday echoed Prime Minister Mudar Badran's call on the international community to help pressure Israel into accepting peace and end its occupation of Arab lands. The paper referred to the prime minister's call for linking the ongoing Jewish immigration to Palestine to efforts to achieve a lasting settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and said that lip service can be by no means contribute to the establishment of real peace. The paper said that in his remarks to Reuters, the prime minister made a correct assessment of the present situation, pointing to the danger inherent in Israel's procrastination in implementing U.N. resolutions and its ongoing efforts to absorb large numbers of Jewish immigrants in occupied Palestine. Linking immigration to a settlement is a logical call on the part of the Arabs, and without such a move Israel will not be prompted by any way to accept peace bids and will not be persuaded to accept the call of reason, said the paper. The prime minister's statement, the paper noted, came at an opportune moment as the immigration continues to constitute a real and serious world problem and a source of danger to the whole Middle East region. The paper said that it was high time for the international community to exercise real pressure on Israel to force it to respond favourably to the call of peace and end its aggression in the region.

WITH THE creation of a new extremist Israeli government, the Middle East is bound to find itself delving into a new phase of tension. Al Dastour said in an editorial Saturday. The new government's expected behaviour is bound to escalate the Arab-Israeli conflict and lead the region into an all-out war, the paper added. With elements like Shamir, Sharon and Eitan, in the new rightist government, no one can be optimistic about a peaceful prospect for the region, the paper said. The members of the new government are all murderers and extremists, bent on carrying out aggressive moves against the Arabs, and this is best manifested in the programmes of each one of the new ministers who all expressed their determination to quell the intifada and to pursue expansionist conflicts against the Arab countries, the paper said. This is the time for the Arab countries to put into practice all the Baghdad summit resolutions, and this is the moment for the Arab states to mobilise their efforts to meet the looming threats, said the paper.

Sawt Al Shabab said the minority government in Israel is going to be more extreme than any other in the history of the Jewish state. This fact prompted Western analysts to predict that the Arab region is heading towards a new war and towards further sufferings for the people of the region, the paper noted. Referring to the ongoing immigration process, the paper expressed the view that the new extremist government of Israel will do all it can to absorb as many immigrants from the 3.5 million Jews now living in the Soviet Union as possible and this will be cause enough to trigger tension that would lead to the expected conflict.

Asians seeking identity, rebel against Moscow

By Mort Rosenblum
The Associated Press

TASHKENT — Almost overlooked in the nationwide tumult, Soviet Central Asians are reclaiming their identity, waging a free-form rebellion against Moscow while warring among themselves.

New political movements, led by intellectuals and fed by an Islamic revival, accuse local authorities of perpetuating Kremlin control. Poverty and social frustration are sowing violence.

Vicious communal riots, quelled by shoot-to-kill military repression, have killed hundreds of people, perhaps more than 1,000, in the past year. Rampaging youths have torched whole neighbourhoods.

Throughout the region, activists say that President Mikhail Gorbachev's promise of perestroika eludes Asians who do not want space in the "common European home" he envisions for the future.

Unlike the northern republics, where Baltic republics bargain for a separate place in a new Europe, Asians pursue a dream of reviving 1,000-year-old roots stifled by

Russian rule. Despite 70 years of Soviet overlay, much of the region remains almost as the silk-caravan drivers found it on their way from China. Only blocks from Tashkent's grandiose monuments to Soviet saviours, old men in robes and skullcaps sip tea under mulberry trees.

Beyond mud walls on winding streets hardly wide enough for a laden donkey, youths read the Koran and mutter darkly about a century of Russian imperialism. Increasingly, they are ready to fight.

"This is like what happened in Algeria," said Igor Krupnik, a specialist in ethnic conflict at the Soviet Academy of Sciences, evoking the upheaval which drove France from its North African colony.

But unlike Algeria, he said, bitter divisions among peoples in the five Central Asia republics add the threat of internal civil war pitting Asians each other as they resist Moscow.

In Uzbekistan, the third most populous Soviet republic, and in Tadjikistan, to the south along the Afghan border, Russians are leaving in growing numbers, joining



an exodus of ethnic minorities. Although some Russians admit to fear of violence, many say they are leaving before worsening economic and social conditions in Central Asia trigger a mass departure.

Potential unrest spreads across a vast area approaching a population of 50 million, echoing concerns in this modernised ancient capital, 2,900 kilometres from Moscow.

While fighting in the Caucasus is confined to well-delineated borders, as Lebanon, Krupnik said, internal strife among Central Asian groups could spill across a Soviet southern border stretching from Iran to China.

On June 4, violence broke out between Uzbeks and Kirghiz on the border between their republics, over desperately scarce land. A skirmish spread to pitched battle, and scores were killed.

Like tinder igniting from a small spark, fighting spread to Frunze, capital of Kirghizia. Uzbeks and Kirghiz, like Kazakhs and Turkmen, share Turkic roots but also a history of

conflict. Tadjiks, ethnic Persians, clash sporadically with neighbouring Uzbeks.

The Soviet policy of clamping down hard acts to intensify frustration, Asians say.

In Kazakhstan, the sweep of steppe bridging Russia and Asia, tension is less evident, but young radicals deride authorities in Moscow for crushing nationalist stirrings.

A Kazakh editor of the underground weekly, Turkestani, afraid to be named for fear of reprisal, said she turned radical when troops fired on crowds in Alma Ata, Kazakhstan, in 1986.

Kazakhs were protesting the nomination of a Russian as first secretary of the local Communist Party. It was the first ethnic violence after Gorbachev took power.

"For the outside, Gorbachev is a champion of perestroika," she said. "For us, he is a hangman."

Leaders of popular front movements in three troubled republics said in interviews that their goal was independence within a few years, although none wanted to

pin down details. "We want independence as soon as possible, but it is too early to say what that means," said Abdurrahim Pulatov, chairman of the unofficial Uzbekistan party, Birlik, a vanguard movement.

Mohammad Solikhi, an Uzbek poet who heads the rival opposition movement, ERK, echoed Pulatov's remarks.

Western specialists say Central Asians, though divided among themselves, share a common purpose: To restore their language, culture and traditional values.

"I am amazed by an overwhelming sentiment to throw the rascals out," said Edward Alworth, a Columbia University professor who has written widely on Central Asia, in Tashkent for new research.

Travel restrictions limit access, but interviews in areas recently closed to foreigners and under curfew reflect emotions ranging from vague unease to panic. In the rich Fergana Valley, east of here, the mood is grim.

"They killed like animals," said a law student named Nalish, an ethnic Turk whose family was among many thousands displaced by Stalin from Meskhetia in southern Georgia generations ago.

She said she survived the Fergana Valley violence a year ago that took 107 lives by official count.

"There were at least a thousand dead," she said. "Uzbeks chopped off children's hands, gouged out eyes, burned people alive."

Her family's Tashkent house was burned in new violence last February, a ripple from bloody assaults in the town of Parkent, 100 kilometres from here. "Now I am leaving for good," Nalish said.

Only last month, gangs of young Uzbeks rampaged through the Fergana town of Andizhan, firebombing the homes of Armenians, Jews and Russians. Women were raped, but no one was killed. Victims said local authorities ignored appeals for help.

Krupnik called that a new tactic to frighten minorities without

attracting army reprisals. "These things are very serious. Authorities respond in the old way, and the situation worsens."

In February, thousands of young Tadjiks sacked Dushanbe in riots touched off by reports that Armenian refugees from Azerbaijan were being given scarce housing. Quickly, witnesses said, they turned on Russians.

A senior Tadjik official, who spoke frankly but on condition he not be named, said that only two people were killed by riots. The rest were shot by army troops restoring order, heightening resentment against Moscow. He put the death toll at twice the official figure of 27.

In the aftermath, Tadjik intellectuals railed at Moscow papers which emphasised attacks on Russians. The real target, Tadjiks said, was the stifling Soviet system.

"We have nothing against Russians, and we condemn the violence," said Abdurrahim Tohir, head of Rastohz (Renaissance), the Tadjik popular front. "But we want to control our own lives."

Like Pulatov and Solikhi in Tashkent, he denied that Islam was behind the violence. "It is social frustration," he said, noting that Tadjikistan's underemployment approached a third of the work force.

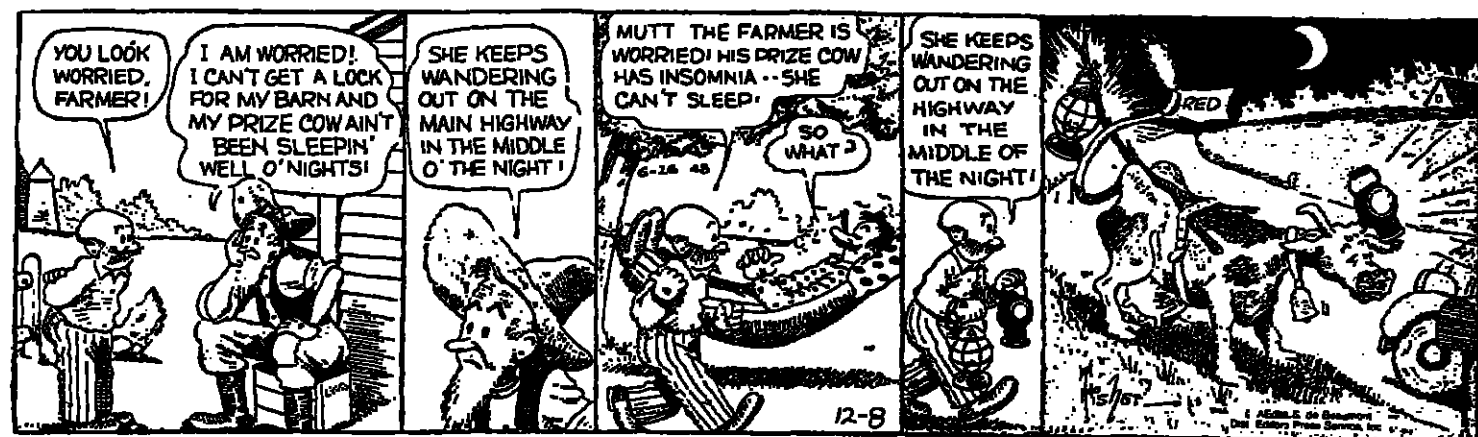
Opposition leaders say they want to build an economy that allows youths to find jobs and homes.

They say that an imposed dependence on cotton has not only wrought havoc on the environment but also has crippled possibilities for economic viability without Soviet support.

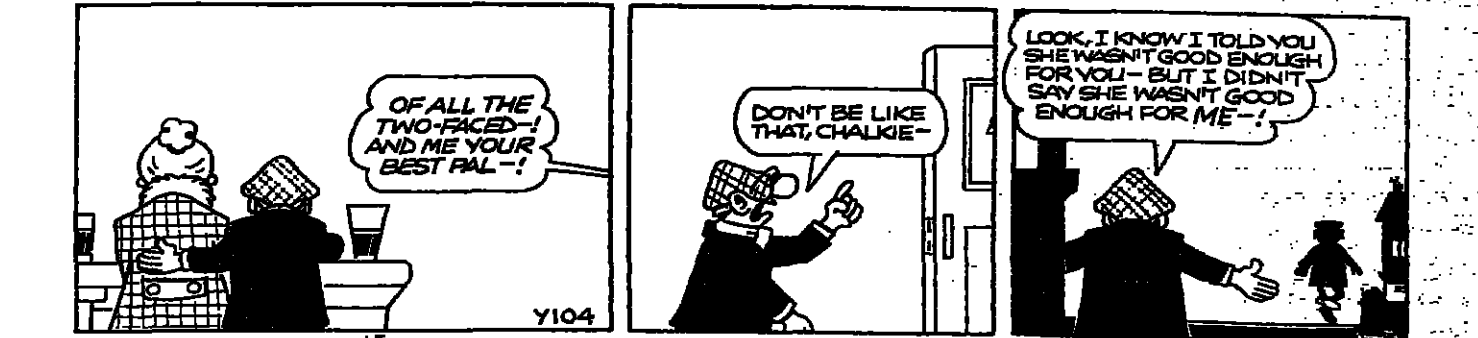
But, fired with a sense of cultural and national identity suppressed since the Czars, many activists argue that economics will follow once the politics are settled.

"Old corrupt ways still continue," Solikhi said. "We must wake up the people. As long as we have governments that look to Moscow, out of touch with the people's needs, we cannot be independent."

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Features

ANC exiles wait for signal to cross South African border

By Vanessa Bennett
Reuters

GABORONE — Twenty thousand black South Africans, who went into exile a generation ago after conflict with the white authorities, are now on tenterhooks waiting for the signal to return home.

"We're carrying on life like we used to, but everybody's looking with big eyes waiting for that bell to ring," Sanku Zikalala told Reuters.

Pointing down the starkly empty highway out of Gaborone to the frontier just 10 kilometers away, his wife Pinky added: "that's the road we'll be driving down when the day comes."

Sanku and Pinky, a doctor trained in Bulgaria, are among the stalwarts of Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) watching sweeping political changes inside South Africa with increasing excitement.

"There are 20,000 people like us waiting, mostly in Zambia, Botswana, Tanzania and Uganda," said Sanku, a doctor trained in East Germany and now working in ANC camps in Tanzania. "I'm ready for the call home."

Compulsory teaching of the Afrikaans language in black

schools in the Zikalalas' home town of Soweto sparked off fierce riots in South Africa in 1976 and resulted in thousands of militant Sowetans fleeing the country to join the ANC.

When black youths poured out of South Africa in the 1970s to ANC headquarters in Lusaka, they were encouraged to finish their schooling before joining the organisation and many went into higher education in Soviet-bloc countries.

Now, encouraged by a wave of reforms which Pretoria's white President F.W. de Klerk has embarked on this year since parliament opened on Feb. 2, they believe they will soon be able to put their skills to good use at home.

"I thought I would never see my native land again in my natural life," said Zikalala, who spent a decade in Bulgaria getting a doctorate in journalism. "On Feb. 2, that's when I began to believe in God."

De Klerk and Mandela, who was freed from jail in February after serving 27 years of a life sentence for plotting to overthrow white rule, have begun exploratory talks on negotiating a new constitution giving a share of political power to the voteless

black majority.

One key ANC demand for entering formal negotiations is that the government issue a general amnesty, freeing all the organisation's members from the risk of prosecution or imprisonment for their past activities.

A committee set up to look into the question has reported to the government but its findings have not yet been made public.

The ANC rank-and-file can only go home once the amnesty is in place, but they will not rush over the border as soon as the Pretoria government gives them the green light, according to exiled physicist Lucas.

Lucas, who asked for his last name not to be published, said the exiles would wait for their own party bosses to tell them to go home.

ANC offices were drawing up lists of members with information about their families inside South Africa, Lucas added, saying it would be difficult and dangerous to go back except under the ANC umbrella.

The organisation has already started seeking foreign aid to repatriate its members and find homes for them inside South Africa.

"I want to go home and start



Nelson Mandela

building up my life on a humble basis, as all intellectuals will. We're not going to go straight back to elegant houses, (we)... will be starting at the beginning," Lucas said.

Lucas said he thought the returnees would be absorbed effortlessly into the South African economy.

"There will be jobs. South Africa is suffering from a big brain drain so we will fit easily and properly into the machinery."



EAST GERMANERS GET HELP: Elmar Pteroth (right) is here seen talking to employees of the East German shipyard 'Neptun' in Rostock. Pteroth, a CDU expert on the affairs of medium-sized companies and a former economic affairs senator in West Berlin, acts as an adviser to the new GDR government. He will give the benefit of his experience to GDR politicians and managers as the GDR economy is altered, people who have had little experience with the free market economy (Photo: DAD/DPA).

Why not lock the men up?

By Simon Louissou
Reuters

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — Feminists have reacted angrily to police advice that they should stay home at night after a spate of brutal rapes shattered New Zealand's reputation as a peaceful society.

"Instead they now want a curfew to be imposed on men."

"Our sex shouldn't be punished for what men are doing," said Maria MacMillan, an activist in the North Island town of Hamilton.

Men should be allowed out after a certain time at night only if accompanied by a woman. "It would be a nice turnaround of the tables because women have for so long had to go out with men to be safe on the streets," she said.

"Men should stay at home at night. In the past it has always been women who stay at home."

The streets of New Zealand towns and cities are still relatively safe by international standards. But the brutality and frequency of recent rapes, particularly in Auckland, New Zealand's biggest city, have shocked the public.

Police advised women not to go out alone at night and to secure their homes after a pregnant South Auckland woman was raped repeatedly by two men who entered her home through an open window on May 5.

The same night a woman in central Auckland was dragged into an alley by a man who attempted to rape her, while a woman in Christchurch who had been waiting for a taxi was raped and beaten in an hour-long ordeal.

Days earlier another Auckland

woman was brutally beaten in a rape attempt in a city centre car park.

Police figures show that reported sexual assaults on women jumped to 2,033 in 1989 from 1,359 in 1985.

MacMillan said the idea of a curfew for men was mooted 25 years ago by the world's first woman prime minister, Israel's Golda Meir, after a series of rapes in Tel Aviv.

But Chief Inspector Dave Smith said the police advice was realistic. "Some of the sanctions some women are advocating, that violence by men be eradicated and curfews imposed, are totally unrealistic."

"Police agree teenage women hitchhikers have the right to accept rides from strangers and not be molested. But it is unwise to do so."

Women's Affairs Minister Margaret Shields told Reuters the police advice was sensible.

"I don't think the problem can ever be solved simply by locking people up," she said.

Asked if violence against women was increasing, she said: "I don't think we have any figures that can suggest that. People are more prepared to report violence, women are less likely to tolerate continual domestic violence, and I think that on the whole is positive."

Trish Mullins, spokeswoman for a Wellington feminist group, wants pornography outlawed and violence on television and in films to be curbed.

"A curfew, while it has got support from women, avoids the real issue of how you are going to change attitudes and behaviour," she said.

Campaigning for support

Vatican policy on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict: The struggle for the Holy Land. By Andrej Kreutz. Greenwood Press, London 1990, £34.95

THE BOOKSHELVES of those who study Israel's establishment and Palestine's renaissance are overloaded, but this small book must be added. The author's interests in Polish and Canadian universities were international law and European history, and his own specialities the interaction between religious beliefs and institutions and politics. His acknowledgements portray him as an unusually empathetic character, and in his myth-destroying introduction he analyses the gradual evolution of Vatican policy to the Holy Land over the past turbulent century in parallel with a transformation of the Roman Catholic Church itself. Handicapped by restrictions on archives, Andrej Kreutz has embarked on a wide sea of painstaking research and personal interviews, and has netted an impressive catch.

He opens with a history of the Church's survival and development, its ambitious self-image, yet its principles realisable only through social and political compromise. He divides the Church into the Western, the Second Church of Eastern Europe (often highly critical of the West), and the Third, of the developing countries. He then describes Vatican positions on every aspect of the struggle for Palestine, the Arab rebellion, partition, the Holocaust, Israel's creation, the refugee problem, national rights, Pope John Paul II and the Palestine question: This takes up only 168 pages of which some 45 are notes. There is a chronology

1897-1988, bibliography, list of interviews, and index.

In a clear, scholarly and brief conclusion we read how Israel's strength after 1967 required the Church to adjust foreign policy and religious tradition, to accept Israel's victory and devote itself to establishing friendly relations with the new state and the international Jewish community. Kreutz remembers President Nixon's statement that failure to deal with the refugee question was one

BOOK REVIEW

of the major mistakes of the post-war era, adding "this was a mistake the Vatican never made." He analyses Vatican reservations over Zionism, admitting religious prejudice and social conservatism and stresses the new liberal and humanitarian elements in the Church's development. He estimates the role of involved Popes (from Pius X to John Paul II) and the differing perceptions which have merged in "continuity of action and persistence of primary objectives and values." We now have a situation wherein both Palestine and Israel compete for the Church's moral support and "its seal of legitimacy." The author has faith in the Holy See continuing to work for and plead with the world on behalf of Palestine's "unhappy people."

Diana Richmond

Technology and Egyptology

By Jacques Baudeneau

PARIS — Two millennia of uninterrupted building work and continuous alterations have made the home of the God Amon, in Karnak, the most prestigious office on the banks of the Nile. Two more millennia passed before it was finally known how the Ancient Egyptians built their temples.

The great temple of Karnak with its jumble of obelisks, pylons and columns, based on a fairly simple architectural structure, is a big system which developed in stages. The primitive temple goes back to 1900 B.C. Until 330 A.D., all the pharaohs embellished it or made additions. Sometimes earlier parts were demolished and the materials from them re-used.

This led to the idea of recreating this enormous permanent building site, as the French electricity generating company EDF does with its nuclear power stations, using the highly developed means of visualisation which it has at its disposal.

From the drawings (finished in 1984-85 by the Franco-Egyptian Centre in Karnak) piecing together the Temple of Amon, the computer memorised the exact form of the architectural volumes. It then produced very varied views (cross-sections and perspectives) which, submitted for assessment to archaeologists, made it possible to test a certain number of hypotheses. On the screen, these pictures present not only the general appearance of the temple, but also the different phases of the development of the buildings.

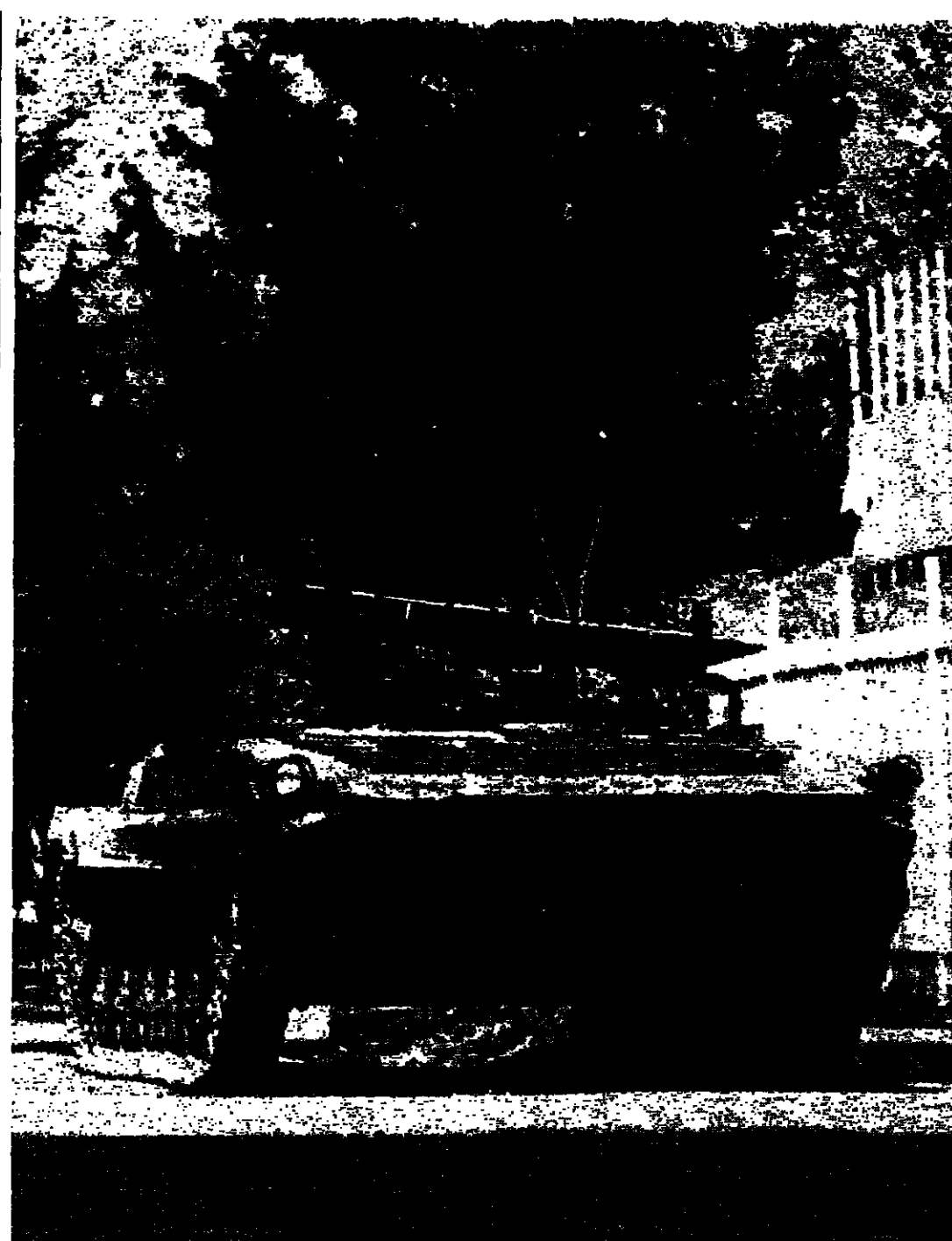
Thus the spectator can retrospectively see the animated and inhabited buildings haunted more than three millennia ago by Thutmose I, Queen Hatshepsut, Amenophis III, Ramses II and, later, Taharqa.

In order to create the computer model of the Temple of Karnak from the data gathered on the site by archaeologists, it took sixteen months of work (from autumn 1986) and 180,000 lines of initial programmes, later brought down to 35,000.

Cooperation between EDF engineers (who have, for a number of years, been interested in technological patronage) and their expert programmes, and specialists at the Franco-Egyptian Centre of Karnak, is also gradually leading to the reconstruction of Amenophis IV's low-reliefs from the end of the 18th dynasty.

In this case it is necessary to extrapolate and to proceed as with a huge jigsaw puzzle. Neither the original, nor the part of the whole made up by the 12,500 blocks found in the foundations of earlier buildings, are known. The computer proceeds as by the association of words and ideas. It is not yet able to directly recognise shapes.

But, from the description (iconographic association and juxtaposition of themes) of a known fragment of the decoration and thereby its neighbouring piece, it is able to identify blocks which correspond to the definitions given. The visual appropriateness is checked by photography. 2,000 blocks have already been assembled — L'Actualite en France.



A Soviet-made tank may yet find a role as an instrument of construction rather than destruction (Sigma photo)

Is it a tractor, is it a crane?

By Colin McIntyre
Reuters

VIENNA — If the Soviet Union has its way, some curious-looking vehicles will soon be ploughing its fields, fighting its fires and constructing its houses.

Moscow, faced with the prospect of getting rid of about 20,000 tanks, has come up with some novel ideas for converting them to civilian use.

The tanks are being made redundant under a new treaty on reducing conventional forces in Europe.

Oleg Grinevsky, chief Soviet delegate to the 23-nation Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) talks, stunned delegates a few weeks ago when he proposed turning thousands of tanks into bulldozers, tractors, mobile cranes, drilling rigs and fire-fighting vehicles.

The response from NATO states and from Moscow's one-time allies, former Communist regimes now moving or already moved to democratic systems, was less than enthusiastic.

Both Western and Eastern experts voiced concern that tanks converted to other uses by removing their gun-turrets could easily be re-adapted to their original role.

"You can't convert 20,000 tanks into cranes — no country could use that many," said a senior Hungarian delegate to the Vienna talks.

"And any vehicle that uses 300 litres of gasoline per 100 kilometres has pretty limited uses," he added.

"I have never met a farmer who wants to plough a field with a tank," Archie Hamilton, British Minister of State for the Armed Forces, told a CFE news conference recently. "The problem is impacting earth, just the opposite of what he is aiming for."

The suspicions of Moscow's Warsaw Pact allies were reflected in the refusal of any of them to support the Soviet proposal on conversion of military equipment. The Soviet Union eventually went ahead and tabled it anyway.

NATO delegates do not believe that Moscow's insistence on conversion is an attempt to circumvent new arms ceilings currently being negotiated.

"If they want to cheat, they only have to pull back their tanks beyond the Urals, which are outside the negotiation zone," one Western delegate said.

Noting that the Soviet Union would have to cut its tank force by much more than NATO's to hit the new ceilings, he added: "they need to show their people they are getting something out of this huge investment."

The main problem of destroying tanks is that they are built to withstand destruction.

At his Vienna news conference Hamilton recalled that the Israeli

army had succeeded in patching up tanks that had been blown up three or four times, and got them going again.

Hamilton was in Vienna to tell delegates of a British method of destroying surplus tanks quickly, cheaply, and with no environmental fallout by blowing them up with strategically placed explosives.

It is one of a number of methods under study that are aimed at responding to complaints by East European countries, particularly the Soviet Union, that they have neither the time nor the resources to destroy thousands of tanks within the three-year period set by the treaty.

The West Germans are looking into crushing tanks, the United States favour cutting them up. Hamilton said that using the British system, three men could blow up a tank with (13 kilograms) of plastic explosive in 45 minutes, at a cost of only 80.

The explosion blows off the turret and cracks the main casing, making the tank virtually impossible to repair, but leaving the wheels and tracks intact so the wreck can be moved without the use of heavy lifting gear.

"When you see what the IRA (Irish Republican Army) can do with (900 grammes) of explosives, blowing a car to smithereens, 30 pounds is pretty devastating," Hamilton said.

Arabs urge U.S. to tie aid to Israel with peace efforts

(Continued from page 1)

"The Arab countries believe that the strategic alliance between Israel and the United States, the volume of military and economic aid and political backing provided by the United States and the lack of effort to convince Israel to respect international law have all contributed to Israel's intransigence and have convinced the world that the United States supports its (Israel's) present policy," the letter said.

It said Arab complaints about the large-scale Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union are based on the fact that Palestinian national rights have not yet been achieved.

If an independent Palestinian state had been set up "there would not have been this great Arab concern about Jewish emigration."

"The Arab worry is based on conviction that this emigration will further curtail the chances of peace in the region," the letter said.

The chairman of the Arab group at the U.N. will confer with Security Council members next week on prospects for summoning a special General Assembly session to devise means of protecting the Palestinians in the occupied territories, the Arab League's U.N. observer said Friday.

Clovis Maksoud said this was the result of consultations among Arab delegates after the United States last week vetoed a Security Council draft to send an inquiry mission to the West Bank and Gaza Strip to recommend ways of protecting the inhabitants.

The Arab group's current chairman, Ambassador Ahmad Ghezel of Tunisia, would first see the seven non-aligned members of the 15-nation council and then other council members.

Maksoud said it would be preferable if the United States joined the consensus in the council and permitted adoption of a resolution there to protect the Palestinians.

The new right-wing Israeli government "might jolt the United States into a more objective approach and distancing from Israel, but there is no assurance at all," he said.

"Hence we are inclined to have a procedural (council) resolution to convene a General Assembly under 'uniting for peace,'" he said, referring to a rarely-used procedure for obtaining action by the 159-member assembly if the council is blocked by a veto.

The aim would be the despatch of observers or "some sort of U.N. force" to protect the Palestinians in the occupied territories, pending an international conference to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Ghezel confirmed he would begin consulting council members next week about possible options,

including a special assembly session, but added that no final decision had yet been made.

Hrawi said to have failed

(Continued from page 1)

Rival Christian forces skirmished with mortars in east Beirut Saturday, raising fears that an increasingly shaky 23-day-old truce in a power struggle between rebel Aoun and militia chieftain Samir Geagea could soon collapse.

Police said no casualties were reported in the early morning exchanges which died down around 7:45 a.m. (0445 GMT).

The Vatican-brokered cease-fire, called May 17, has halted major clashes between the two forces, which have been fighting for control of the Christian enclave north of Beirut since Jan. 30.

But daily firefights between Aoun's troops and Geagea's right-wing militiamen have become routine and police officials said all-out fighting could resume because mediators have failed to secure a political settlement.

"Nothing has changed at the political level. Both sides remain in their position and no-one can predict how much longer this ceasefire will hold," said a police spokesman.

Militia executes 'collaborator'

The Syrian-backed, Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia executed a Lebanese man in the southern port city of Tyre Saturday for allegedly collaborating with Israel.

Photographers were not allowed to take pictures of the 5:30 p.m. (1430 GMT) execution of Haider Al Asmar, a 26-year-old former Lebanese army soldier from the village of Yareen inside Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone" in South Lebanon.

A masked Amal gunman shot Asmar as he saw on a rock blindfolded with his hands and legs tied.

More than 3,000 people watched the execution in the coastal city, local reporters said.

Amal sources said the militia arrested Asmar four days ago after he shot and seriously wounded a Tyre travel agent.

No other details were available.

Saudi Arabia postpones electronic share dealing

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia has delayed the introduction of the first electronic share dealing system in the Gulf to avoid a traditional summer trade lull.

Gulf-based analysts say the launch of the Saudi Securities Automated Information System (SAIS) — initially scheduled for April — had been postponed to avoid coinciding with the Muslim holy month of Ramadan which ended in May.

Then Saudi officials decided to put off the date for another three months to avoid a normal business lull between June and August, when many people take extended holidays.

"The hardware is in place and the system has been fine-tuned but officials want to start when activity picks up at the end of the summer season," one Saudi-based economist said.

Analysts say screen trading on SAIS will revolutionise the kingdom's infant market by speeding up share dealing for 55 listed companies and providing accurate prices.

Under present rules, traders must go to a bank with a bid or offer and the banker involved then telephones around for a quote. Deals can take up to two months to complete.

SAIS would sidestep the religiously sensitive issue of re-introducing a trading floor while giving small investors the chance to compete with prominent ones, who previously had better access to company information, the analysts said.

It would also reduce the influence of brokers who take most of the business directly from big investors. Brokers from the kingdom's 12 commercial banks will operate the screens.

"Trading floors are anachronisms today — you don't need to have people standing eyeball to eyeball to discuss prices when the same information can be communicated electronically," one analyst said.

Saudi Arabia opened a trading hall in May 1987 but closed it a few weeks later after what bankers termed objections from some merchants and religious groups. Usury is banned by Islam.

Despite this, trading volume on the cumbersome telephone and telex market has grown steadily, reaching an average \$7 million a day from \$4 million a year ago.

This compares with daily trade of around \$10.3 million on Kuwait's exchange, which is the oldest in the Gulf. Business on Bahrain's official exchange is less than \$1 million a day.

Dramatic gains in stock prices of many banks and industrial firms fuelled a share trading boom in 1989, with the kingdom's official index breaking 100 for the first time last October.

It climbed about nine per cent during the first five months of 1990, hitting 118.27 on May 30.

Figures show the banking and industry sectors — which recorded gains of 19 per cent and 10 per cent respectively this year —

still account for most of the turnover.

Higher oil prices and declining loan loss provisions boosted the performance of most Saudi banks in 1989. Several reported record profits, both for 1989 and the first quarter of 1990.

"The banks are performing well and this is whetting the appetite for their shares," a spokesman for the Riyadh-based Consulting Center for Finance and Investment said.

Share prices for the joint-venture United Saudi Commercial Bank, a market leader, rose 48 per cent in the past five months.

The bank's first quarter profit jumped to 27 million riyals (\$7.2 million) from 17 million (\$4.5 million) in the first quarter of 1989.

Share prices for Riyadh bank, one of the largest Saudi banks, leaped 30 per cent. The bank's first quarter profit rose 25 per cent to 115.7 million riyals (\$31 million).

New restrictions and taxes placed on some manufactured imports coupled with a general economic upturn also improved the performance of local industries.

Share prices for the leading Saudi Basic Industries Corporation climbed 11 per cent to 2,635 riyals (\$703) in the first five months of 1990.

Prices for the Saudi Pharmaceutical Industry and Medical Appliances Corporation rose eight per cent to 365 riyals (\$97).



Mikhail Gorbachev

Soviet Union must create market economy

MOSCOW (R) — President Mikhail Gorbachev said Friday the Soviet Union must press ahead with far-reaching changes to create a market economy, lifting the country from stagnation after decades of centralised planning.

Gorbachev, who faces growing opposition to the Soviet government's economic reform plans, told the nation he was convinced ordinary people would come to recognise that only a market system could give them the life they wanted.

In quiet but determined mood, Gorbachev told a news conference televised live across the Soviet Union about his drastic plans to meet the needs of consumers.

"The majority of our society has come to the conclusion that we need very deep changes in our economy," he said.

"The market is the environment which will encourage productivity and quality. Our conclusion is that it is essential."

The president spoke of a reform package of more than 30 laws and decrees that would set up "a developed financial and credit network of commercial banks" as well as security and commodity exchanges, among other measures.

Referring to state-fixed prices, many unchanged for decades, he said: "We must put all prices in line with the realities of the economy and bring them up to world levels. If not, how can we open our defenceless market to the world? Foreign businessmen would leave us naked within two weeks."

Gorbachev delivered his remarks sitting alongside Britain's Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, one of the Western world's chief apostles of the market system, who is on a visit to the Soviet Union.

She nodded in apparent agreement as the Soviet president, accused by some critics of abandoning Communism, declared: "The market is not an invention of capitalism... it has existed for centuries. It is an invention of civilisation."

A long-awaited government programme for transition to a market economy from old-style Communism's rigid centralised planning of the past 60 years was presented to the Soviet parliament by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov two weeks ago.

But radicals say it does not go far enough in breaking the system or is even designed to maintain bureaucratic or Communist control, and raised fears among ordinary people for their already low living standards.

The Soviet parliament, the Supreme Soviet, has not yet voted on the package but many deputies have bitterly criticised it, while the parliament of the second largest republic, the Ukraine, has already rejected the package.

Byelorussia has turned down price rises while the newly-elected president of the Russian Federation, Boris Yeltsin, has said the plan is "anti-Russian" and puts too heavy a burden on ordinary people.

There are limits on who can buy and sell, reducing turnover. No foreign participation is allowed, even though it would be one way of attracting foreign capital.

Reformers long have argued that these problems could be solved by creating a computerised, national market and allowing freer issue of company stocks and bonds. Before conservatives gained the upper hand last year, there were even calls for gradual privatisation of the economy through stock sales.

IMF reassesses its multiple roles

By Alver Carlson
Reuter

WASHINGTON — The International Monetary Fund (IMF), torn between East Europe's new thirst for money and the southern hemisphere's old hunger for food, is reassessing its multiple roles.

The agency, set up just before the end of World War II to help nations with balance of payments problems, now must try its hand at poverty relief and environmental damage control as well.

But some monetary experts fear the agency's efforts to tackle and agenda which far exceeds its original aims of helping with debt problems and promoting economic cooperation may be self-defeating.

"Some people are worried that the IMF will cease to exist in its key form if it gets too far away from its original role," said one monetary source.

The IMF's informal self-scrutiny, under way for years, has taken on a greater sense of urgency after a decision last month to pump an additional \$60 billion into the agency's coffers — a 50 per cent capital increase.

"The debate is intensifying now that the funding is approved and specific directions are being formulated," another source said.

Officials say the debate centres on whether the IMF should continue to broaden its role or retrench and concentrate on fostering economic cooperation and achieving economic balance among countries.

The agency's responsibilities have never been so great since the Third World debt crisis burst onto the stage in 1982. Although major industrial countries have enjoyed nearly a decade of economic expansion, grinding poverty continues to dominate individual countries and sometimes entire regions.

The debt crisis continues to stalk policymakers as changes in Eastern Europe challenge the IMF to help turn socialist, financially strapped economies into healthy free markets.

Latin America, with combined debts of \$410 billion, has made little progress. Africa owes an estimated \$226 billion and remains in critical condition.

The IMF considers itself to be "lean and mean," as one monetary source put it, with total staff of 1,700 against 6,000 at the World Bank, its sister agency for development finance.

Many see this comparatively slim structure as an asset which allows for greater agility in providing funds and recommending policies.

The capital increase agreed at the IMF-World Bank spring meeting a month ago will make it easier for the fund to deal with its new responsibilities, but it will be some time before the money is actually committed and can be put to work.

Member countries have until June 28 to ratify the agreement, which would then take effect Dec. 30 next year.

But experts say the new funding does not completely resolve the question of the IMF's role within the global economic system, which is often upset by unexpected developments.

Camdessus pointed out during the debate on funding that the IMF had to be able to move quickly, noting that neither the Third World debt crisis nor the emergence of Eastern Europe had been anticipated.

Eastern Europe, which is lining up for massive assistance on its \$95 billion debt, will benefit from the new European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) set up last month by 40 countries.

But the EBRD is geared mostly to helping the fledgling private sector in Eastern Europe, and its basic capital of \$12 billion is dwarfed by the IMF's capital increase alone.

IMF strategists stress that no region will be pushed aside by the needs of another, and Managing Director Michel Camdessus has said the debt crisis will not take a back seat to the historic emergence of Eastern Europe.

But internally there is festering concern that the pressures from Third World countries to help the poor and from Western environmentalists to stop damage to the environment — from the earth's thinning ozone shield to Brazil's shrinking rain forests — are stretching the agency well beyond its capabilities.

"Lean and mean"

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HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY JUNE 10, 1990

By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Wright Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A beautiful day and evening for you to show those with whom you are in most immediate contact that you are really ready to serve their best interests. Make a point to explain details.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You awaken in a highly creative frame of mind and should proceed to make your important moves for the future particularly later in day when ideas can be used.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You can approach home problems with family members from a different slant and improve relations, then later see your home in perfect condition.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A generous friend will give unusually helpful ideas for gaining a desired aim if approached and later you can join other friends in an interesting project.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Your financial picture can be greatly improved by what you do during early part of day and later you can take specific action to make it work.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Your own course of action wherein you combine past experiences and add new goals are the way to advance; later in day reduce aims to the nitty gritty.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Private extension of your largest aims and ambitions can now

be thought out and with the aid of a confidential specialist who trusts you.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Consider more your good friends and what they desire from their association with you and then you will be able to make the bonds much closer.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You would be wise to let the most powerful person you know be more aware of your vocational abilities and get that person's assistance, today.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You have the best possible inspiration now how to expand in directions that unite your experiences and your hopes for the future.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You like business and to put yourself in a spot where you can control some important deals and this is a particularly good day to do so.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You can discuss and arrange a mutual undertaking of importance with a prominent person, then later in the day you can carry through agreement made.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You see clearly just what needs to be done to improve and increase the comfort, scope, efficiency of your environment; in evening let another person concerned aid you with this.

THE Daily Crossword by Kenneth Witt

ACROSS

- 1 Apple
- 2 California
- 3 Do, re, etc.
- 4 First name in scat
- 5 Kiln
- 6 Red dye
- 7 City on the Danube
- 8 Catalogue
- 9 Shelters
- 10 Allie things
- 11 Blanket beginning
- 12 Count start
- 13 Alphabet run
- 14 On the beryl
- 15 Bridge bid
- 16 Auscultation sound
- 17 Legal matter
- 18 On the beryl
- 19 Allie people
- 20 Different
- 21 Hefflin or Johnson
- 22 Delta of song
- 23 Early auto
- 24 Cross or opposed
- 25 Rocky crag
- 26 Invader of Eng.
- 27 One like another
- 28 Make into law
- 29 — of the earth
- 30 Mary —
- 31 Train type
- 32 Tract
- 33 Wastily land
- 34 Transit
- 35 Furnish

DOWN

- 1 Comic strip
- 2 Landed
- 3 Ball of yarn
- 4 Devastation
- 5 Basel opus
- 6 Fly
- 7 A Jackson
- 8 Intersecting line
- 9 Work as one
- 10 Concerning
- 11 Stretched the truth
- 12 Print measures
- 13 Hair line
- 14 Rope loop
- 15 Fr. clergy
- 16 Fletchah
- 17 Staphyrene
- 18 Ornamental table item
- 19 Wedding man
- 20 Reagan's attorney
- 21 Cut away
- 22 Type of twin
- 23 Flad
- 24 Macbeth
- 25 Remote
- 26 — with a view
- 27 Tobacco plug
- 28 Topcoat type
- 29 Took leave
- 30 Trap
- 31 Of birth
- 32 Weather word
- 33 S.A. rodent
- 34 Egypt
- 35 goddess
- 36 Skirt insert
- 37 Paradise
- 38 Windy City
- 39 eight
- 40 Father

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS

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East Germans battling to become more competitive

FRANKFURT (R) — East Germany's main problem as it prepares to merge economically with West Germany lies in making its outdated industry competitive on the world market, the head of the West German central bank said Friday.

Bundesbank President Karl Otto Poehl told bankers in Frankfurt he was less concerned about the risk of higher inflation in Germany after monetary union, scheduled for July 1.

"The real problem will be the competitiveness of East Germany," he said.

East Germany, under the thumb of Stalinist central planners for the past four decades, has long been the biggest industrial power in the East Bloc. But it lags far behind the West in terms of technology, know-how and product quality.

Because prices were fixed for so many years and firms were judged on output volume rather than on profits, analysts say most firms will face big adjustment problems in coming months.

Serious overstaffing, a big burden on costs, is also a problem, they say.

Poehl rejected suggestions East Germany should set up tariff barriers or import duties to protect its industry in the transition to full political unification with West Germany.

"The idea of setting up 'protec-



Karl Otto Poehl

tive fences' is unrealistic," he said.

After the powerful West German mark is introduced in East Germany on July 1, the two nations' economies will be unified and they will have to give similar treatment to their imports.

West Germany was still obliged to abide by European Community (EC) agreements on tariffs and other barriers, Poehl said.

It would also be unrealistic to subsidise all non-competitive or loss-making East German firms, he said.

"I am very wary of subsidies. Although they always start as short-term measures they never end, they take on a life of their own," Poehl said.

Economists say it is too early to

assess the full cost of German monetary union and of German unification.

"East Germany is going to have its own special problems with financing," Poehl said. The country could raise money only through taxes, which would come in slowly, and by borrowing on capital markets, which would be difficult.

Under the terms of a treaty on economic union signed last month, East Germany will have to clear all new borrowing with the West German finance ministry.

Poehl said the Bundesbank's role as a fund-raiser was limited. "The Bundesbank will not finance the deficits of East Germany any more just as it will not finance the deficits of West Germany," he said.

"If we did that it would be the surest way of financing unification by printing money and this would unleash the inflation which is so much feared on financial markets."

Foreign investment would be extremely important in getting East Germany's ailing industry back on its feet," Poehl said.

He said he strongly favoured privatisation, but added that its proceeds should be used to rebuild East German firms rather than as a handout to the East German population.

China reformers slowly revive market plans

SHANGHAI, China (AP) — China's reformers are cautiously reviving plans to develop stock and bond markets one year after political turmoil gave conservatives the upper hand and halted most innovation.

Chinese bankers and securities dealers huddled for three days this week with foreign counterparts at an extraordinary seminar about how capitalist securities markets operate and their advantages.

Participants said China is years away from creating a modern, Western-style market with computerised transfers, futures options, a wide range of stocks and bonds and a host of buyers and sellers. For socialist China, the concept of creating wealth by means other than direct labour remains politically suspect.

But Western and Chinese sources said just holding the seminar showed that government officials and think-tanks committed to reform have regained some influence — if only because serious economic problems have forced conservatives to consider reformist solutions.

"The biggest single problem they face is they need money," said one Western businessman, speaking on condition of anonymity. Securities markets, he noted, are one way of turning private savings into capital investment.

That is why plans to develop a

market are "back on track," he said. "The direction's the same, the speed may be slower."

The seminar was the largest effort to tap foreign expertise on the subject since the 1986 visit of a Wall Street delegation led by New York stock exchange Chairman John J. Phelan Jr.

This time, the 36 foreign participants included a senior vice president of the Tokyo stock exchange, Shiro Uramashu; Eoghan McMillan, chairman of Hong Kong's futures exchange and F.T.F. Yuen, chief executive of the Hong Kong stock exchange.

Sponsors included the state commission for restructuring the economy, once closely allied to former Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang. Zhao was purged last year in a power struggle touched off by massive student-led protests for democracy. Many of his advisors also were purged, demoted or frightened into silence.

But economic reform has found new support in Shanghai, long one of China's most politically reliable cities. Mayor Zhu Rongji, widely regarded as a pragmatist, needs capital to modernise the city's crumbling infrastructure.

He also recently unveiled plans for an ambitious industrial and high-tech development zone called Pudong that will need at least \$10 billion in investment over the

next decade.

"This conference may really be about Pudong," said one foreign participant.

Shanghai, which had one of Asia's biggest stock markets before the 1949 Communist takeover, returned to the business in 1986 when it opened a stock trading counter for cash purchases and sales. More counters soon opened nationwide, each setting its own prices.

But since few Chinese companies are allowed to issue stock to anyone but employees, the counters did little business. Their real takeoff came in 1988, when the government allowed resale of treasury bonds.

Most Chinese are required to buy these and regard them as a tax, not an investment. Many are happy to sell at a discount, boosting the country's annual transactions to more than \$383 million.

There are limits on who can buy and sell, reducing turnover. No foreign participation is allowed, even though it would be one way of attracting foreign capital.

Reformers long have argued that these problems could be solved by creating a computerised, national market and allowing freer issue of company stocks and bonds. Before conservatives gained the upper hand last year, there were even calls for gradual privatisation of the economy through stock sales.

De Beers to launch Swiss-based affiliate

JOHANNESBURG (R) — De Beers, the world's biggest diamond producer, is adding sparkle to its image with the launch Monday of a Swiss-based affiliate.

New-look De Beers securities will be traded in Johannesburg and on eight European bourses from Monday, representing the De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited parent and its Swiss connection De Beers Centenary AG.

De Beers appears to believe — and share analysts agree — that its shares have been undervalued in the past, because foreign investors especially failed to appreciate its global role or were wary of its South African identity.

Merrill Lynch and company, the largest U.S. securities firm, said last November its traders would no longer buy or sell shares in South African companies, joining other U.S. houses which refuse to handle South African-related business because of the country's apartheid race segregation laws.

LA SEMAINE DE ...

Suleiman Sweiss

Vacances: du temps à "tuer"

Depuis quelques jours, les écoles commencent à se vider de leurs élèves. C'est la fin de l'année scolaire. Bientôt, les étudiants du "hawji" seront débarrassés de l'angoisse des examens. La chaleur, qui s'accroît chaque jour, nous annonce que ce sont bien les vacances d'été qui commencent.



Les vacances d'été. Pour des centaines de milliers de jeunes jordaniens, c'est d'abord le signal de la libération des devoirs et des obligations scolaires. Ce sont des moments de détente, de paresse, parfois de vide, peut-être de joie et de rencontres agréables pour certains. Pour des centaines de milliers de parents en revanche, ces deux mois d'été constituent un véritable et long cauchemar. Ils s'en soucient déjà.

Ces derniers changent leurs habitudes. Ils se couchent et se réveillent tard. Ils "traînent" à longueur de journée. Dès qu'il commence à faire frais, en fin d'après-midi, ce sont les ballades dans les rues. Des errances de jeunes qui ne savent pas quoi faire de leur jeunesse. Alors on casse, on se bagarre pour tout et pour rien, on drague les jeunes filles, on va au cinéma pour regarder des films généralement médiocres.

Il est vrai que la "gestion du temps" n'est pas une discipline à laquelle jeunes et moins jeunes sont habitués dans notre pays. Par ailleurs, la société jordanienne n'a pas mis en place un dispositif suffisant pour aider les jeunes à passer leurs vacances d'été de façon agréable et utile. On a l'impression que chez nous vacances riment avec "ne pas faire son travail". Sans plus.

Pourtant, depuis une dizaine d'années, l'équation conge-loisirs fait son chemin. Grâce aux "clubs d'été", organisés par le ministère de l'Éducation dans certaines écoles, les autorités ont réussi à atténuer quelque peu la gravité du problème. Les jeunes peuvent choisir entre plusieurs activités dans ces centres temporaires et y pratiquer leurs hobbies.

Mais, vu le très grand nombre de jeunes, ces clubs ainsi que certains "camps" d'été se révèlent encore (malheureusement) insuffisants. On y manque de moniteurs, d'animateurs et de matériel.

Nous souffrons aussi beaucoup du manque de centres aérés, de colonies de vacances, où les jeunes peuvent s'amuser, faire connaissance les uns avec les autres et passer le temps utilement et agréablement, sans toutefois dépenser trop d'argent. Nombre de clubs ou d'associations, particulièrement à Amman, réclament en effet des sommes exorbitantes.

De tout, les jeunes jordaniens se retrouvent quasiment abandonnés par la société. On ne leur accorde que très peu de leur droits. Les centres et clubs rattachés au ministère de la Jeunesse ne s'adressent qu'à une petite minorité d'entre eux. En 1987, une étude non officielle avait révélé que 20.000 jeunes de 17 à 24 ans seulement, sur une population globale de 700.000, étaient membres de ces organisations.

Le budget du ministère de la Jeunesse s'élève pour cette année à un peu moins d'un million de dinars. Une somme essentiellement consacrée au paiement des salaires. Très peu d'argent est destiné à la création de nouveaux centres ou clubs. On a l'impression de ceux qui existent déjà. Or nombre d'entre eux laissent à désirer: manque de terrains de sport, manque de matériel.

Il est grand temps, en dépit de nos problèmes économiques, de s'occuper des jeunes, particulièrement pendant la période estivale. Ce sont des énergies énormes qu'on peut orienter vers le bien du pays. L'été est une occasion, entre autres, de leur apprendre à avoir confiance en eux-mêmes, la solidarité et l'amour du pays. Oui, on peut continuer à "apprendre" en été, sans se fatiguer, à travers la lecture, les débats, les conférences, le tourisme et la vie collective. Pourquoi ne pas songer à des "maisons de jeunes et de la culture" dans les quartiers, villages et petites villes, en collaboration avec les associations populaires locales? S'occuper des jeunes de la nation n'est-elle pas l'affaire de tout le monde?

Accusés d'appartenir à une secte d'hérétiques

Cinq Jordaniens jugés pour apostasie

Cinq Jordaniens, accusés d'apostasie pour avoir embrassé la religion "Al-Kadyaniya", considérée comme hérétique par l'orthodoxie musulmane, ont comparu fin avril et début mai devant le tribunal islamique de Naour. Quatre d'entre eux ont été acquittés après

A peine quatre mois après la fin de "l'affaire Toujane Faygal", la Jordanie se retrouve être depuis fin avril le théâtre de nouveaux procès pour apostasie, crime suprême à l'encontre de l'Islam. Un crime qui vaut à ceux qui en sont convaincus, tel Salman Rushdie, une véritable condamnation à mort et l'impunité à quiconque verserait leur sang.

Cette fois, ce sont cinq Jordaniens qui font face à cette terrible menace. Tous ont été accusés d'avoir renié la foi musulmane pour embrasser la religion "Al-Kadyaniya". Quatre d'entre eux n'ont pas caché être membres de la communauté des Ahmadiya, du nom de Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, un Indien du Penjab qui fonda cette secte en 1889.

Ainsi de Taha al-Kazak, âgé de 70 ans, qui s'est lui-même présenté comme le chef de file des quelque 25 adeptes

de Ahmad en Jordanie. Mais selon lui, l'accusation d'hérésie portée à l'encontre de ses trois compagnons et de lui-même est erronée. «Les Ahmadiya reconnaissent que leur prophète est Mohammad et que leur livre saint est le Coran. Par conséquent, ils n'ont jamais renié leur appartenance religieuse à l'Islam», insiste-t-il. A l'en croire cependant, «Mirza Ahmad a prétendu être le messie, l'envoyé de Dieu, venu pour donner une lecture plus juste du Coran et mieux adaptée à notre époque, après que les docteurs de la loi coranique en eurent donné des interprétations souvent fausses. Et nous croyons en lui».

Repentir

Le juge du tribunal de Charia de Naour, dans la banlieue sud-ouest d'Amman, a estimé en avril dernier que

cette dernière profession de foi constitue bel et bien un crime d'apostasie. Selon l'Islam, «Mohammad est le dernier prophète», souligne cheikh Khaled al-Wrekyate. C'est pourquoi, ajoute-t-il, les deux plus hautes autorités en droit coranique, l'université al-Azhar du Caire et l'Association du Monde Islamique en Arabie Saoudite, ont émis une "fatwa" (jurisprudence islamique) qualifiant Al-Kadyaniya d'hérésie.

Bien que Taha al-Kazak ait répliqué que sa communauté voyait en Ahmad un «prophète qui est venu non pour changer la Charia mais lui donner une interprétation plus exacte et amener ainsi les musulmans à une meilleure application des principes de l'Islam (...), il lui a fallu prononcer, avec ses trois co-accusés, une «déclaration de repentir». Les quatre accusés, contre lesquels l'avocat Abdallah al-Shamayleh récla-

maît «de verser leur sang, de confisquer leurs biens et de prononcer la dissolution de leurs mariages», ont également dû renouveler leur foi musulmane et signer de nouveaux contrats de mariage pour bénéficier de l'acquiescement. Les précédents contrats ont en effet été jugés «invalides» par le tribunal.

Condamné

Plus critique est la situation du cinquième accusé, le journaliste Ibrahim Abou Nab.

Egalement convaincu d'être un adepte d'Al-Kadyaniya et d'avoir publié des articles ainsi que des poèmes en faveur de cette religion, il a lui aussi été jugé «coupable d'apostasie» par le tribunal islamique de Naour, qui a prononcé en première instance le 26 mai dernier la dissolution de son mariage et lui a interdit d'écrire ou de publier des articles», précise cheikh Wrekyate.

Contrairement aux quatre autres condamnés, Ibrahim Abou Nab a cependant rejeté les accusations portées contre lui. Qualifiant de «fausses» les mesures du verdict de la cour, il s'est dit «innocent», estimant que «seul Dieu a le droit de juger les personnes sur leur foi». Le journaliste a ajouté qu'il avait publié un ouvrage retraçant l'histoire d'Al-Kadyaniya, dans lequel [il] réfute les arguments de cette religion sur la base des vérités du Coran.

Ibrahim Abou Nab avait par contre violemment critiqué la manière dont s'est déroulé le procès de Taha al-Kazak. Il avait notamment estimé la procédure en contradiction avec la constitution du royaume, qui prône la liberté de croyance. «Surtout au moment où la Jordanie entame une nouvelle expérience démocratique».

Le sort du journaliste reste pour l'heure suspendu à la décision finale que doit prochainement prendre la cour d'appel de Charia. Une décision, qui, si elle confirme le jugement du tribunal islamique de Naour, constituera un précédent plutôt inquiétant dans le royaume hachémite.

Propos recueillis par Suleiman Sweiss.

Nabil Rached.

Entretien avec le journaliste Alain Gresh

L'attitude américaine encourage l'intransigeance israélienne

Alain Gresh est journaliste au "Monde diplomatique". Il est également l'auteur de plusieurs ouvrages sur le conflit israélo-arabe et sur la résistance palestinienne, dont "Histoire et Stratégies de l'OLP" (1983), "Les Cent Portes du Proche-Orient" (1986) et "Palestine 47: Un Partage Avorté" (1987). Mercredi dernier, il a donné une conférence au CERMOC (Centre d'étude et de recherche sur le Moyen-Orient contemporain) sur "les rapports entre les Palestiniens des territoires occupés et l'OLP". De passage à Amman, il livre au "Jourdain" son analyse de la situation régionale.

Le Jourdain: Estimez-vous qu'il y a récemment eu un changement qualitatif dans la politique américaine à l'égard du conflit israélo-palestinien?

Alain Gresh: Je ne crois pas qu'il se soit produit un tel changement. Depuis l'accession au pouvoir de George Bush et la tenue du Conseil national palestinien en novembre 1988, l'attitude des Américains a consisté dans l'ouverture d'un dialogue avec l'OLP sans toutefois manifester l'intention de déboucher sur quelque chose de concret. Ils veulent que la centrale palestinienne ne s'oppose pas à leur plan. L'axe principal de leur politique est le suivant: essayer, à partir du plan Shamir, de concocter un nouveau projet, qui soit acceptable par Israël, par les gouvernements arabes et qui ne soit pas combattue par l'OLP. C'est l'essence du plan Baker. Ce dernier est parti du principe que le gouvernement

d'union nationale dirigé par Yitzhak Shamir souhaite une négociation et que le plan proposé par le premier ministre israélien est sincère et non pas destiné à gagner du temps. Dès que ce plan est devenu concret pour les Américains, Shamir y a renoncé, bien que cette proposition de Washington soit très éloignée du plan de paix palestinien.

L. J.: Les Etats-Unis n'avaient-ils pas les moyens d'appliquer leur plan malgré tout?

A. G.: Oui, mais à condition d'effectuer de véritables pressions sur Israël. Or celles-ci sont restées verbales. Par contre, le gouvernement américain a été soumis à de fortes pressions de la part du Congrès. C'est pourquoi, tout de suite après l'opération du Front d'Abou al-Abbas, il a menacé de rompre le dialogue avec l'OLP. Le délégué américain a également posé son veto

contre le projet de résolution, pourtant modérée, soumis au Conseil de sécurité des Nations Unies pour l'envoi d'une mission [dans les territoires occupés]. Ce qui a constitué un encouragement à l'intransigeance israélienne.

L. J.: Quelles pourraient être les implications régionales du massacre des ouvriers palestiniens et de l'opération des fedayin?

A. G.: La situation au Proche-Orient est devenue très instable. L'absence de progrès dans la négociation de paix et la continuation de l'intifada vont entraîner les éléments les plus aventuriers dans la direction israélienne. Ils risquent de chercher dans la guerre une "solution" à l'intifada. D'un autre côté, l'absence de solution de paix encourage les éléments extrémistes dans le camp palestinien ou arabe, et en premier les islamistes. Cela confirme leur opinion qu'il n'y a pas de solution de paix et que le seul chemin est la confrontation. Le désespoir de la population arabe, et particulièrement palestinienne, risque d'être accru par ce qu'ils perçoivent comme un immobilisme des pays arabes. Le sommet de Bagdad - pour autant que l'on sache - s'est contenté d'une nouvelle fois de déclarations de principe.

EN BREF

Représentant. Une délégation de l'Association parlementaire pour la coopération euro-arabe a souhaité mercredi la présence d'un représentant permanent de la CEE dans les territoires occupés. Cette délégation de sept membres s'exprimait à Amman, dans le cadre d'une tournée d'information au Proche-Orient. Le représentant serait alternativement un ressortissant de l'Etat assumant la présidence de la Communauté. La délégation s'est montrée résolue à maintenir cette proposition quelle que soit l'opposition éventuelle d'Israël.

Jordanie-USA. Le roi Hussein a reçu mardi à Amman une délégation américaine conduite par l'ancien sénateur républicain Charles Percy. Il a estimé à cette occasion qu'il était «difficile pour la Jordanie et la nation arabe d'accepter et de comprendre» le veto opposé par les Etats-Unis à l'envoi par l'ONU d'une mission d'enquête dans les territoires occupés. De son côté, la délégation s'est prononcée en faveur d'une action immédiate des Etats-Unis au Proche-Orient, estimant que leur pays est la seule partie pouvant constituer le pont entre les Palestiniens et la droite israélienne, qui semble devoir prendre prochainement le pouvoir.

2H10L10M21Jordanie-Libye. Le roi Hussein a reçu une invitation à se rendre en Libye, adressée par le dirigeant libyen Mouammar Kadhafi. Il a promis d'y répondre le plus tôt possible à indiqué mardi le premier ministre jordanien Moudar Badrane. Ce dernier a ajouté que la nomination d'un ambassadeur jordanien à Tripoli aura lieu très prochainement. Les deux pays avaient rompu leurs relations diplomatiques en 1984 à la suite de la mise à sac et de l'incendie de l'ambassade jordanienne en Libye.

Manifestations. L'une des personnes blessées au cours des manifestations de la fin du mois de mai en Jordanie est décédée lundi à l'hôpital de l'université. Ce décès porte à quatre tués le bilan officiel de ces journées de troubles a annoncé mercredi à Amman un haut responsable de la Sécurité générale. Les obsèques de Jihad Manassra, 20 ans, se sont déroulées mardi au camp de Baqa'a, à 20 Km au nord d'Amman.

Israël. 1.163.350 juifs soviétiques ont demandé à immigrer en Israël depuis le début de l'année 1989, selon le directeur du département de l'immigration de l'Agence juive (organisme para-gouvernemental). Ce chiffre englobe 252.100 familles (715.000 personnes) ayant adressé des demandes d'immigration en 1990 aux responsables de l'Agence en URSS. Depuis le 1er avril 1989, 50.000 juifs soviétiques sont arrivés en Israël.

Iran-Irak. Le président iranien Ali Akbar Hachemi-Rafsanjani a déclaré mercredi qu'il était disposé à une rencontre au sommet avec le président irakien Saddam Hussein, «si cette réunion se révèle constructive et positive». M. Rafsanjani a indiqué que Bagdad avait proposé fin avril des négociations directes, en dehors du cadre de l'ONU, mais que son pays tenait au contraire à des négociations sous les auspices du secrétaire général des Nations-Unies.

Armement. L'administration américaine a fait part mercredi au Congrès de son intention de vendre à l'Arabie Saoudite des véhicules blindés, des missiles anti-chars et du matériel de modernisation de cinq avions de surveillance AWACS. La valeur de ce contrat se monterait à quatre milliards de dollars, à moins que le Congrès ne s'oppose à cette vente dans un délai d'un mois.

Libération. La Haute Cour de Sécurité de l'Etat égyptienne a décidé jeudi de libérer sous caution M. Khaled Abdel Nasser. Le fils de l'ancien président Nasser est accusé par le parquet d'être l'un des principaux instigateurs des attentats anti-israéliens et anti-américains, revendiqués par l'organisation activiste «Révolution de l'Egypte» entre 1984 et 1987. Khaled Abdel Nasser, qui s'était livré la veille de façon inattendue aux autorités égyptiennes à l'aéroport du Caire, a versé une caution de 2.000 dollars.

Anti-racisme. Des centaines de milliers de jeunes Soviétiques, Tchecoslovaques et Français ont, pour la première fois manifesté ensemble leur rejet du racisme en participant, hier soir, à trois concerts organisés simultanément à Moscou, Prague et Paris par l'association française SOS-racisme.

Unanimité. Les députés français ont adopté à l'unanimité vendredi en première lecture le projet de loi sur la participation des organismes financiers à la lutte contre le blanchiment de l'argent de la drogue. Si ce texte est définitivement adopté les banques et professions financières devront faire part au ministère des finances de leurs soupçons sur l'origine frauduleuse de fonds qui leur seraient remis. Une mesure qui implique donc une certaine levée du secret bancaire.

SIDA. La ville de Paris va tripler cette année le budget municipal de lutte contre le SIDA qui devrait passer de 5 à 15 millions de francs. Ces sommes serviront à renforcer les actions de prévention avec notamment une journée d'information par mois sur un thème relatif au SIDA. Deux équipes mobiles vont également être créées pour le ramassage des seringues. Fin 1989, 2.569 malades du SIDA (30% des cas déclarés en France) ont été enregistrés à Paris.

Vache. Les Douze se sont mis d'accord jeudi pour renforcer les mesures de protection contre la maladie des «vaches folles» qui sévit en Grande-Bretagne. L'embargo sur la viande bovine britannique décidé la semaine dernière par la France, la RFA et l'Italie, a donc été levé.

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Jordan Times' JORDAN MARKET PLACE

La diététique de l'an 2000

Meilleure adaptation du contenu nutritif des produits aux besoins des consommateurs, amélioration des saveurs, plus grande sécurité d'emploi...L'alimentation évolue et s'enrichit constamment. Mais Les évolutions les plus frappantes sont encore à venir.

Depuis le début du siècle, tout a changé dans nos assiettes. L'agro-alimentaire est devenu une véritable industrie qui ne se borne plus à répartir les produits en fonction des besoins, mais qui les modifie, les transforme, les conditionne, assure leur conservation. Cela implique l'utilisation de nombreuses technologies nouvelles qui touchent à l'industrie chimique aussi bien qu'à celle du froid.

Mais tout ceci va changer bien plus encore et le présent va sembler très vite dépassé. Les laboratoires de recherche se livrent actuellement des luttes acharnées dans tous les domaines de la nutrition avec comme impératif la loi des "quatre S", à savoir: Saver, Santé, Sécurité et Service. Ainsi se résume la diététique de l'an 2000.

Quelques chiffres font déjà rêver ou... laissent rêver: on estime que 50% des produits que l'on consommera dans dix ans n'existent pas encore et n'en sont



L'avenir est sombre pour les gastronomes de l'an 2000

qu'au stade de l'étude ou de la préfabrication. La part des produits transformés ne cesse d'augmenter: de 30% il y a 40 ans, elle atteint 80% actuellement. Le temps passé dans la cuisine qui était de plus de 3 heures par jour à la même époque ne dépasse plus 20 à 30 minutes aujourd'hui.

L'extraordinaire essor des produits surgelés et autres produits prêts à l'emploi représente 70% de la consommation tandis que, dans le même temps, les dépenses pour l'alimentation ont chuté de 33 à 24%.

Garder le saveur et sauver le goût. Toutes les transformations industrielles affaiblissent les produits et, pour compenser, on utilise de plus en plus les arômes artificiels. Le chiffre d'affaires de ce secteur a été multiplié par 5 en quinze ans et doit doubler dans les cinq ans à venir. Exemple: la vanille naturelle coûte 17.000FF le kilo, tandis que celle tirée des déchets des bois a une puissance aromatique de dix fois supérieure et ne coûte que 50FF.

La biotechnologie en est arrivée au stade où elle possède des banques d'arômes qui, complétés par des capteurs de goût, peuvent résister aux diverses modifications industrielles et à la cuisson. La société Roquette étudie avec SANOFI un beurre dépourvu de cholestérol et gardant quand même son goût.

Ce beurre nous amène au chapitre de la santé. Cette dernière décennie a vu prospérer les produits allégés en matières grasses et en sucre, qui représentent 20% du marché actuel. Il est certain que la nourriture de demain sera mieux adaptée aux besoins de chaque groupe d'individus: enfants, malades, actifs, inactifs, sportifs ou sédentaires, mais aussi aux besoins de chacun et même au climat. Le plat familial sera remplacé par le plat individuel.

La Sécurité est aussi un problème très important. Tout au long de la chaîne alimentaire des souillures et des contaminations sont

susceptibles de se produire. Principale accusée: la Salmonella Enteritidis, l'une des 2.300 espèces de cette famille microbienne. On estime à près de 100.000 le nombre de contaminations en France par an. Dans 42% des cas, les accidents sont dus à un non respect de la chaîne du froid, 38% à une erreur dans le processus de préparation, 32% à un délai excessif entre la décongélation et la consommation.

Mais les produits frais ne sont pas exempts de tels problèmes: Listéria et Yersinia sont capables de se développer entre 4 et 10 degrés Celsius, c'est à dire la température des réfrigérateurs habituels. Outre des consignes de stérilisation plus contraignantes, on envisage l'emploi à grande échelle de la stérilisation par rayons gamma et/ou l'utilisation de marqueurs colorés (comme pour le matériel chirurgical) garantissant la bonne conservation des produits.

Quant au Service, il est bien évident qu'en France, pays du bien-manger, la seule idée d'une nourriture standard et stéréotypée fait frémir d'horreur. Aussi l'alliance de la haute cuisine et de l'industrie agro-alimentaire ne cesse de se développer. Cinquante des plus grands chefs sont ainsi devenus les collaborateurs des laboratoires: ils goûtent les légumes, fruits, poissons et viandes traités par l'industrie et leur verdict est sans appel.

Joël Robuchon, chez qui il faut retenir sa table trois mois à l'avance, fait l'inverse: il prépare un plat selon son savoir-faire et l'expédie au laboratoire de la société Fleury-Michon. Là, ingénieurs et nutritionnistes s'efforcent de refaire le même plat en se plaçant aux contraintes industrielles. Ils le retournent ensuite à l'envoyeur qui donne ou refuse son feu-vert. Plusieurs allers-retours sont nécessaires, mais ils ont permis la mise au point d'une vingtaine de nouveaux plats préfabriqués. Pour l'instant, cette chaîne est réservée aux restaurants.

De son côté, la société Jacquet a conçu un pain qui reste parfaitement frais pendant quatre à cinq mois, grâce à un emballage spécial.

La révolution dans nos assiettes ne fait que commencer...

Jean Chabrier.

Nelson Mandela à Paris

Pour le maintien des sanctions

Nelson Mandela s'est déclaré «très heureux» jeudi à Paris, après l'annonce de la levée quasi totale de l'état d'urgence en Afrique du Sud. Le vice-président du Congrès national africain a cependant demandé au président Mitterrand que la France use de son «influence» pour le maintien des sanctions économiques à l'encontre de Pretoria.

Vendredi minuit, la quasi totalité de l'Afrique du Sud est sortie de quatre années d'état d'urgence. Le président sud-africain Frederik de Klerk, qui a officiellement annoncé la nouvelle jeudi au Cap devant les trois chambres du Parlement réunies en session extraordinaire, a précisé que les lois d'exception restaient en vigueur dans la seule province du Natal. Selon lui, ce maintien se justifie en raison de «la violence entre Noirs (qui) a atteint des proportions choquantes et un niveau d'intimidation exceptionnel» dans cette région du pays de l'apartheid.

Promise à plusieurs reprises par M. de Klerk, cette mesure a été annoncée au moment même où le président français recevait à Paris le vice-président du Congrès national africain (ANC). Nelson Mandela s'est déclaré «très heureux» de cette suspension, qu'il a qualifié de «victoire pour l'ensemble du peuple sud-africain, blancs comme noirs». Il a cependant regretté que le Natal n'en ait pas bénéficié, en expliquant qu'une telle différence de traitement ne «servira à rien» pour mettre fin aux heurts sanglants entre mouvements noirs.

Nelson Mandela a par ailleurs qualifié de «conversation très fructueuse» son tête-à-tête de demi-heure avec François Mitterrand. Le vice-président de l'ANC a notamment présenté au chef de

l'Etat français sa vision de la situation, tant en ce qui concerne le dialogue et le rapport de forces interne en Afrique du Sud que l'importance, à son avis, du maintien des sanctions économiques internationales à l'encontre du régime ségrégationniste de Pretoria.

Du côté français, on reconnaissait à l'issue de la rencontre que Nelson Mandela avait effectivement insisté sur la nécessité de poursuivre une politique de «pressions» jusqu'au démantèlement complet de l'apartheid. Ce dernier a également réaffirmé à François Mitterrand qu'il souhaitait que la France use de son «influence très importante en Europe» dans ce sens. M. Mitterrand a pris note de cette demande tout en soulignant que le débat se situait effectivement au niveau européen.

Nelson Mandela tiendra sans nul doute le même discours de fermeté au président américain, qui le recevra le 14 juin à la Maison Blanche. Pour George Bush, cette rencontre doit servir à encourager à des progrès dans les négociations entre le pouvoir et le Congrès national africain. M. Bush avait invité le leader noir ainsi que le président de Klerk à Washington juste avant la libération du chef de file du mouvement anti-apartheid, en février dernier. (D'après agences.)

Vous écrivez?

Si la plume vous démange, que vous écrivez en français... "Le Jourdain" vous ouvre ses deux pages hebdomadaires. Vos idées de sujets, locaux et régionaux, comme vos suggestions y sont les bienvenues.

Jean-Marc Bordes, French section, Jordan Times.
P.O. Box 6710. Tél: 667171.

A L'AFFICHE

Cinema: Sam Spade, le premier des privés

La chasse à l'intangible trésor

Le centre américain présente cette semaine et la semaine prochaine la "Falcon Maltese" de John Huston (1941), prototype des films de détectives privés et tournant dans le cinéma américain. La création de ce personnage - à l'opposé du film policier - définit en effet un nouveau genre: le film noir. L'œuvre représente aussi les débuts de John Huston en tant que réalisateur et incorpore un thème essentiel de son cinéma: l'échec des entreprises.

Le complot du "Falcon Maltese" le montre bien. A la recherche d'une statue d'oiseau paré de bijoux inestimables, le détective Sam Spade (Humphrey Bogart) fait la rencontre d'une foule hétéroclite de petits tricheurs et de grands bandits: un escroc suave (Peter Lorre); un gangster maussade (Elisha Cook Jr.); une personne à l'accent très cultivé (Sydney Greenstreet). Versions d'une même pègre, ils sont tous à la poursuite d'un objet illusoire. La belle mystérieuse (Mary Astor), qui emploie Spade et dont il s'éprend une fois dévouée, n'est qu'une dangereuse criminelle et l'oiseau convoité, qui coûte la vie à trois personnes, qu'un article truqué.

La version de Huston est la troisième, tirée du roman de Dashiell Hammett, un innovateur qui introduisit dès les années 1920 un nouvel accent dans le roman policier. Son "Maltese Falcon" (1929) a donné plus d'importance aux caractères des personnages qu'aux énigmes et aux dénouements. Et son héros, Sam Spade, à l'air cynique et désabusé, est le premier grand "privé" de la littérature policière moderne.

Au cinéma américain, ce personnage apporte une nouvelle thématique et une moralité autre que celle du "polar" classique. Tandis que l'archétype de ce dernier genre ("Little Caesar", 1930; "Scarface", 1932), s'inspirant de l'actualité, voulait montrer l'enracinement du crime organisé par le système judiciaire, le Sam Spade du "Falcon Maltese" incarne un univers non moins violent mais dans lequel la justice émanera plutôt des principes de l'individu. Ce monde romanesque, à son tour, inspirera des images jamais utilisées jusqu'alors. Ce n'est plus la police faisant face aux malfaiteurs d'Al Capone et de ses sicaires mais une figure solitaire, plongée dans un monde où l'individu doit exercer une moralité personnelle pour s'en sortir.

En 1941, John Huston tourne ces images pour la première fois. Scénariste autant que réalisateur, il reste fidèle à la trame romanesque de Hammett, mettant lui aussi l'accent sur la description et le jeu de caractères plutôt que sur les complications du mystère. Une fidélité, qui va jusqu'à la conservation quasi intégrale des dialogues du livre. Le style laconique du film reflète tout autant celui du roman.

De plus, l'interprétation de Bogart (troisième incarnation) fait date dans l'évolution cinématographique du personnage principal. Le Sam Spade de Ricardo Cortez ("Le Falcon Maltese", 1931) péchait par excès de suavité et d'élégance; celui de Warren William ("Satan Met a Lady", 1936), version à l'accent comique, se montrait trop débouaillonné. Bogart, lui, réussit à faire la synthèse des traits de caractères de Sam Spade: un dur, au visage rude et anguleux, à la franchise brutale avec n'importe qui, policier ou gangster; un homme prêt à sacrifier jusqu'à la femme qu'il aime pour honorer son sentiment de justice. Un film à voir ou à revoir.

Sami Kamal.

EXPOSITIONS

Etoffes. Tissus, tapis et tentures de l'époque ottomane, appartenant à la collection privée de l'ambassadeur d'Allemagne de l'Ouest à Amman, Dr Herwig Bartels.
Galerie de la Fondation Shouman, du 16 au 30 juin. Vernissage samedi à 19h00. Ouvert du mercredi au jeudi de 10h00 à 17h00 et le jeudi de 10h00 à 20h00. Entrée libre.

CONFERENCES

Géothermie. MM. Tournay et Demange présente l'histoire de la géothermie, son utilisation en France et ses applications possibles en Jordanie.
Centre culturel français, mardi 12 juin à 18h00 (en français).

J E U X

Mots croisés

par Florence Mantel

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									

Horizontalement.

1: ont un faible pour les fonds sous-marins. 2: fixe définitivement; jeu d'origine chinoise. 3: elles aiment le poisson. 4: enroulées. 5: bois noir; utile pour construire une phrase. 6: adjectif possessif; convient. 7: excessivement; rongeur. 8: Héraclès en avait un. 9: tension. 10: au golf; situées.

Verticalement.

A: accepte de la Réforme. B: on y passe généralement la nuit; rayé. C: arrondie; couleur brune jaune ou orangée. D: il fit brûler Rome. E: oiseau; appel de détresse. F: marque le féminin; dans la gamme. G: planétaire. H: Renesgaucourt. Généraux; boisson gazeuse; pronon personnel. I: pas intelligent; adjectif.

(Solution la semaine prochaine)

Solution de la grille N. 13:

Horizontalement.

1: éprouver. 2: nervi; ta. 3: tu; arriver. 4: bleus; té. 5: élu; sables. 6: tes; set. 7: ip; délaiss. 8: et; le. 9: vipère. 10: sa; tissés.

Verticalement.

A: entrecrois. B: peu; lent. C: or; bus. D: uval; doit. E: vitasse; pi. F: tuelles. G: noisetiers. H: éc. I: étiétrez. J: rares; os.

CINEMA

Semaine du Film Turc. Inaugurée hier soir par le ministre de la Culture et l'ambassadeur de Turquie à Amman, le festival propose cette semaine: "Hurmuz with 7 Husbands" (dimanche 10/06, sous-titré en arabe); "Wife as Gramophone" (lundi 11/06, sous-titré en arabe); "Any Other Woman" (mardi 12/06, sous-titré en arabe); "Feast of Colours" (mercredi 13/06, documentaire sous-titré en anglais); "Tile Art of the Anatolian Seljuks" (jeudi 14/06, documentaire sous-titré en anglais).
Centre culturel royal, jusqu'au jeudi 14 juin. Projections à 20h00. Réservations au CCR.

"Quatre Aventures de Reinette et Mirabelle", d'Eric Rohmer, avec Jessica Forde, Joëlle Miquel et Fabrice Luchini (1988). Les étapes, en quatre tableaux, d'une amitié entre deux adolescentes: Reinette la campagnarde, à la fibre artistique, et Mirabelle la citadine, débrouillarde et plus déléguée...
Centre culturel français, lundi 11 juin à 20h00 (en français, sous-titré en arabe).

"La Revoltosa", avec Jose Sacristan. Inconnu...
Centre culturel espagnol, lundi 11 juin à 18h30 (en espagnol).

"Die DDR im Umbruch" (1989). Documentaire en trois parties sur l'histoire de l'Allemagne de l'Est, jusqu'aux événements de la fin de l'année dernière.
Institut Goethe, mardi 12 juin à 20h00 (en allemand).

"The Maltese Falcon", de John Huston, d'après le roman de Dashiell Hammett, avec Humphrey Bogart (1941). La descente aux enfers du détective Sam Spade, à la d'une statue d'oiseau paré de bijoux inestimables... Un des grands classiques du film noir hollywoodien, véritable précurseur des aventures de détectives privés.
Centre américain, jeudi 14 juin à 19h00 (en anglais). Voir FOCUS.

Ciné-club. Séance quotidienne à 20h00. Projection supplémentaire pour les jeunes, le jeudi à 16h00. Le programme de la semaine du dimanche 10 au samedi 16 juin n'a pas été communiqué. Renseignements au 603901.

Films en version originale. Route de l'Université, première à droite après l'hôtel Jérusalem puis première à gauche. Le ciné-club se trouve à environ 300 m., sur la gauche de la route.

TELEVISION

DIMANCHE

17h50 - Tel Père, Tel Fils: sitcom à la française, avec Jacques Balutin.
18h15 - L'Ecole des Fans, animée par Jacques Martin.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Sélection de variétés françaises.

LUNDI

18h05 - "Terres d'Espoir" (2): documentaire consacré au continent africain et à l'Asie du Sud.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Magazine sportif hebdomadaire.

MARDI

18h00 - Château de Sable: dessin animé.
18h15 - Des Chiffres et des Lettres: jeu.
18h35 - Tel Père, Tel Fils: sitcom.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Aujourd'hui en Jordanie: magazine local réalisé et présenté par Saleh Madi.

MERCREDI

18h00 - "Panique aux Caraïbes": série policière...
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Les Méandres de l'Eau (2): documentaire.

JEUDI

17h40 - "Molierissimo" (7): dessin animé pour les jeunes. 20 ans d'histoire de France.
18h10 - Des Chiffres et des Lettres: jeu.
18h30 - La Chance aux Chansons: émission de variétés françaises du passé, présentée par Pascal Sevran.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Sélection de variétés françaises.

VENREDI

17h25 - "Le Comte de Monte-Cristo" (2ème partie), de Claude Autant-Lara, avec Louis Jourdan, Yvonne Fourmeaux et Pierre Mondy. Accusé de bonapartisme alors qu'il rentrait de voyage, Edmond Dantès a été jeté au cachot du château d'If, situé sur une île. Il est victime d'une machination.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Pétzains, ou métiers de femmes. Cette semaine: maître vétérinaire.

SAMEDI

17h45 - Le Monde est à Vous: Emission de variétés-jeux présentée par Jacques Martin.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Aujourd'hui en France: documentaire.

LE SAVIEZ-VOUS ?

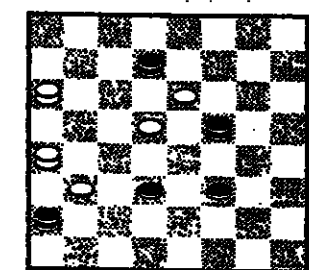
COUVRE-FEU. Un mouvement de femmes néo-zélandaises a récemment demandé aux autorités d'Hamilton (150 kilomètres au sud d'Auckland) l'instauration d'un couvre-feu nocturne à l'encontre des hommes, dans le but de lutter contre les agressions sexuelles. Le "Groupe d'Hamilton pour la Paix" a présenté cette requête à la suite d'une série de viols survenus dans la région et pour protester contre l'attitude de la police de la ville, qui s'est contentée de recommander aux femmes de ne pas sortir après la tombée de la nuit.

GORBY. Un fabricant de jouets japonais "Avanti" a lancé à la mi-juin dans l'archipel, aux Etats-Unis et en Europe une poupée à l'effigie de Mikhaïl Gorbatchev. Haute de 25 centimètres, la nouvelle poupée est habillée en jeans, en cuir ou en tenue de plaisance. Certaines versions ouvrent la bouche et poussent un petit cri. "Avanti", qui met en vente son dernier joujou pour environ 19 dollars, affiche déjà un carnet de commandes de quelque 1,5 millions de "Gorby".

ALCOOL. A neuf ans, plus de la moitié des jeunes Japonais ont goûté à l'alcool, selon une enquête récemment publiée à Tokyo. A cet âge, 61% des garçons et 50% des filles, parmi les 13.000 Nippons de 6 à 18 ans interrogés, ont reconnu avoir bu au moins une fois des boissons alcoolisées. A 18 ans, ce pourcentage atteint 96% des sondés.

DAMES

Problème N. 14.



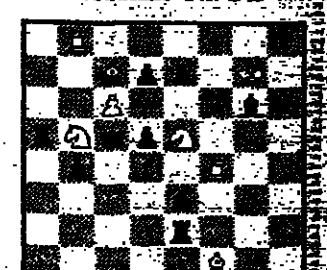
Les Blancs gagnent en quatre coups.

Solution du problème N. 13:

B. 17-13; N. 10-17; B. 21-18; N. 22-13; B. 14-10; N. 30-21; B. 15-20; N. 8-22; B. 20-9; N. 6-13; B. 9-25.

ECHECS

Problème N. 14.



Mot avec les blancs en deux coups.

Solution du problème N. 13:

C7-c8.

Cameroun's win adds to list of great upsets

ROME (R) — Cameroun's shock 1-0 win over defending champion Argentina in the opening match of the World Cup will go down as one of the tournament's greatest upsets and one of the historic victories of a black African nation.

The 66th-minute towering header from French-based Franco-Omani-Biyik put Cameroun in the same giant-killing club as the United States, North Korea, Algeria and East Germany.

As African champions and after an impressive unbeaten showing at the 1982 World Cup, Cameroun arguably belong in a different category.

But their standing in world soccer is clearly well below Argentina's, reflected in the 12-1 odds offered before the momentous victory at Milan's San Siro stadium.

The first landmark upset in a World Cup match came in 1950 when the amateur United States humbled mighty England 1-0 with a 37th-minute header from Larry Gantjens.

Italy, this year's hosts, were the next leading soccer nation to be humiliated. At the 1966 finals in England, North Korea stunned the Italians with a single goal from Pak Doo Ik.

Brazil expects tough game against Sweden

TURIN, Italy (AP) — Brazil may be one of the favorites to win the World Cup, but it faces a tough opening game Sunday against Sweden in group C at the city's new stadium.

Brazil is the only country to have qualified for all 14 World Cups and, like Italy, is trying this year to win the soccer championship for an unprecedented fourth time.

But Brazil has not beaten the Swedes since 1966. Since then, the teams have met four times; Sweden won two of those matches and the other two ended in draws.

Sweden won the last game a year ago 2-1 during the Danish centenary tournament in Copenhagen. But Brazil coach Sebastiao Lazaroni didn't have some of his best players because they were committed to their European league teams.

Lazaroni, the first Brazilian national team coach to introduce a sweeper system, predicted that Brazil will end its non-winning streak against Sweden Sunday.

Both teams will play a defensive-oriented game. "Don't expect a grand spectacle," Lazaroni said at the Brazilian training camp. "I hope it will be very difficult to score against my team."

Both teams will use a sweeper, with four backs, three midfielders and two attackers.

The mainstay of the Brazilian defence will be sweeper Mauro Galvao. Its offensive punch will depend on the speed and scoring ability of Careca and Muller who, after playing for several years in the Italian league, are used to breaking through European defensive walls.

For Muller, it will be like a home game. The 24-year-old

striker plays for Torino in the Italian league.

Lazaroni said Saturday that the match against Sweden will be "a tough and difficult game, but we are full of confidence."

Lazaroni's main worry during the final days of preparations in Aosta was an injury to key defence and midfielder.

Dunga, who plays for Fiorentina in the Italian soccer league, had pulled a hamstring muscle earlier in the week and wasn't expected to play. But he recovered quickly.

Silas, who was to take Dunga's place, will sit on the bench. Sweden, which tied Brazil 1-1 in their last World Cup clash in the 1978 tournament in Argentina, had two impressive warmup wins in Stockholm before going to Italy.

Sweden beat Wales 4-2 in late April and trounced Finland 6-0 two weeks ago to remain unbeaten with its best lineup this year. Earlier, the Swedes drew Belgium 0-0 and Algeria 1-1 on the road.

"We will try to defend well and play a smart tactical game," Swedish coach Olle Nordin said. "But we're not going to sit back when we attack."

"We'll attack with the whole team. I think it will be very interesting to see how the new Brazilian defensive system will do under pressure," he noted.

Nordin, who was a member of the Swedish World Cup team last time in Argentina 12 years ago, has a lot of respect for Brazilian soccer.

"The Brazilians must be the favourite in our group," he said. "But I think we have a good chance to beat them."

Yugoslavs aim to shake West German confidence

MILAN, Italy (AP) — West Germany has a history of struggling early and finishing strongly in the World Cup. Bursting with self-confidence, the Germans are promising a strong start and an even better ending this time.

A sloppy start against Yugoslavia Sunday in Milan could cost the West Germans dearly and prevent them from their first objective: Winning group D.

"I think it's good to have such a strong rival in the first match," said coach Franz Beckenbauer. "Our players will have to be fully concentrated and motivated from the very beginning of the tournament."

The last time West Germany won its opening World Cup game was in 1974 at home, when it edged Chile 1-0. It went on to become world champion.

It drew 0-0 with Poland in 1978, suffered an embarrassing 2-1 loss to Algeria in 1982 and

drew 1-1 with Uruguay in 1986. Despite unconvincing starts, West Germany was runner-up in the last two World Cup finals.

Winners in 1954 and 1974, the West Germans are shooting for their third title and are considered one of the favourites.

"My players have seen the other teams and we all think none is better than us," Beckenbauer said. "Now we have proved it on the field."

Beckenbauer won't be able to use central defender Jurgen Kohler, who tore muscle fiber in his right hamstring in training. His place is expected to go to Thomas Berthold.

Yugoslavia has no injury problems. With nine players playing abroad Yugoslavia has enough experience to trouble the West Germans.

"They were always a skillful team but now they are very strong tactically as well."

British gamblers forecast finalists

LONDON (AP) — If British gamblers are to be believed, England will play the Netherlands in the final of the World Cup. Paradoxically, they favour Italy as the winner.

The England-Netherlands match, a 20-1 shot, is the favourite choice of people in Britain trying to forecast the finalists.

But among those picking the overall winner, Italy is favourite at 3-1, while the Netherlands is 4-1 and England tied in fifth spot with defending champion Argentina at 11-1.

The United States and the United Arab Emirates are the outsiders at 2,000-1.

The World Cup has attracted heavy betting throughout Britain, where over \$4,000 (\$6,800) will be gambled for every minute of soccer played, according to the country's largest bookmaker, Ladbrokes.

It expects a record £20 million (\$34 million) to be handed over during the event.

People who do not usually gamble have been putting money on their favoured teams, spending up to £5,000 (\$8,500) on an

England win and £3,000 (\$5,100) on a draw in the opening match between Argentina and Cameroon.

One hopeful has even staked £150 (\$255) on Egypt to win at 150-1 and another £20 (\$34) on a 1,000-1 victory by the United Arab Emirates.

Among individual stars, Dutchman Marco Van Basten is the hot tip to score most goals. He stands at 5-1 with England's Gary Lineker, the most prolific striker in the 1986 finals, 10-1.

Odds will be updated regularly throughout the tournament to help the backers choose their next stake.

The full betting in Britain on the World Cup teams is: Italy 3-1; Netherlands 4-1; Brazil 9-1; West Germany 6-1; Argentina and England 11-1; Soviet Union 16-1; Spain 20-1; Yugoslavia 25-1; Uruguay 28-1; Sweden 33-1; Belgium 40-1; Republic of Ireland 50-1; Austria, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Romania and Scotland 66-1; South Korea 300-1; Cameroon and Egypt 500-1; Costa Rica 1,000-1; United Arab Emirates and United States 2,000-1.

Egypt hopes to emulate Cameroun

PALERMO (Agencies) — Egyptian midfielder Taber Abu Zeid saluted the shock win posted by fellow Africans Cameroon over Argentina Friday and said he hoped his country would play as well in their World Cup games.

"The played great football, they played football as it should be played with the whole team prepared to attack and defend together," he said.

Cameroun pulled off a sensational 1-0 win over the world champions in the opening game of the tournament despite finishing the match with nine men.

"I only hope we can play as well as Cameroun ourselves," the 23-year-old midfielder said.

He added he thought the red card for Andre Kiya Biyik was harsh but felt the subsequent dismissal of Benjamin Massing was justified.

Egypt, in the World Cup for the first time in 56 years, have the daunting task of playing the Netherlands, the European champions, in their first game Tuesday.

"I don't think we'll play like Cameroun. I think we'll be more defensive and use counter-attacks," said Abu Zeid, a small man who acts as the midfield playmaker.

"The game against the Dutch will be the most difficult of the three group matches," he added. Egypt must also play England and Ireland in group F.

"England and Ireland rely more on high balls and we can deal with that better as we have a strong defence."

But he said not too much notice should be taken of Egypt's recent 3-1 win over England's neighbours Scotland.

"That was a friendly game and it's completely different when there is a World Cup at stake," he said.

Similar challenge

Dutch coach Leo Beenhakker said his squad faces a similar challenge against underdog Egypt as Argentina did in its disastrous World Cup debut against Cameroon.

Beenhakker was in no mood for surprises after seeing Cameroon upset defending champion Argentina 1-0 in Friday's World Cup opener.

"As one of the favourites, we have to look for our own motivation," he said. "We can't play with the idea that the Egyptians are weaker."

He rated Egypt "more or less like Cameroun, tough physically but not as strong."

Beenhakker said videotapes of recent Egyptian matches reveal a defensive approach.

But he said, "I don't know if they're going to play as defensively as we all think."

Neither side is giving much away before the game.

Egypt, which brought its own security guards to Italy, has banned news photographers from its training sessions.

Dutch star forward Marco Van Basten, lounging at the team hotel's swimming pool, said Egypt must not be allowed to dictate the pace of the game.

"We'll look for the right tactic," he said. "But I won't tell it to journalists."

Beenhakker should be able to assemble a top-strength Dutch lineup for the opener, including long-sidelined team leader Ruud Gullit.

Colombia overcomes UAE

BOLOGNA (R) — Carlos Valderrama, the hardest worker in the Colombian team, was rewarded with a goal as his side beat the United Arab Emirates (UAE) 2-0 in the opening World Cup Group D match Saturday.

Valderrama, a dynamo in midfield throughout the often scrappy match, raced down the left wing to shoot into the bottom corner of the net with just three minutes left.

Bernardo Redin had put the Colombians ahead in the 50th minute when he dived to head home a cross from Leonel Alvarez which goalkeeper Mohsin Mosabeh Faraj failed to reach.

The Emirates, newcomers to the finals, were tenacious in defence and though star striker

Adnan Khamis Talyani had several shots at goal, the team as a whole were too ragged to threaten the South Americans.

The result gave Colombia a psychological advantage over Yugoslavia, their next opponents, who face twice champions West Germany in Sunday's second Group D match.

Shock-haired Valderrama, with French club Montpellier, came in for the closest marking and was brought down by Essa Meer only minutes into the game at Bologna's Dell'Arena stadium.

English referee George Courtney, adhering to FIFA's request to crack down on offenders, produced the yellow card and also booked two other UAE players, Youssef Hussain Mohamed and Ibrahim Meer, Essa Meer's twin,

in the second half. Colombia, absent from the finals since 1962, nearly came to grief in the closing minutes of the first half.

Defender Andres Escobar chipped the ball back to goalkeeper Rene Higuita, unaware that the Emirates' Ali Thani Juma was lurking within reach.

Ali Thani stole the ball and tried a snap shot and though his effort was blocked by Higuita, Talyani was only just wide with the rebound.

Talyani was the only man seriously to trouble the exuberant Higuita in the second half. The goalkeeper had to race off his line in the 53rd minute to steal the ball from the striker's feet.

Romania defeats USSR

BARI, Italy (AP) — Marius Lacatus scored a goal in each half to lead Romania to an impressive 2-0 victory over the Soviet Union in their opening World Cup Group B soccer match Saturday.

Lacatus, roaming wide on the right, scored the opening goal in the 41st minute and then clinched the victory with a 54th minute penalty after Soviet defender Vagiz Khidiyatullin was ruled to have handled in the penalty area.

Romania played with a well-organised defence and the pace of its attackers repeatedly worried the Soviet backline.

The victory lifted Romania to the head of Group B, in which all the teams now have played one match. Unheralded Cameroon upset defending champion Argentina 1-0 in the first Group B match in Milan Friday night.

Lacatus' opening goal came

against the run of the play.

Romanian goalkeeper Silvus Lung made three fine saves to thwart the Soviet forwards early in the game before the Romanians carved out their first real chance.

Lacatus beat the Soviet defence with his speed and cut in from the right, driving a right-footed shot past goalkeeper Rinat Dasayev, who was beaten at the near post.

The goal gave the Romanians an obvious lift and they dominated the contest from that point on.

Lacatus made no mistake with his second half penalty, driving the ball past the helpless Dasayev.

He and young striker Florin Raducioiu combined brilliantly in the absence of star forward

Gheorghe Hagi, who missed the match through suspension.

Ionut Popescu was a tower of strength in midfield, while Iosif Rotariu drove forward repeatedly from the back.

The Soviets over-elaborated in attack and lacked any real spark in midfield, particularly after Lacatus' second goal.

Lacatus had a chance to complete his hat-trick in the 75th minute, but shot wide on an apparent easy opportunity.

Romania is bidding to make it past the first round of the World Cup for the first time in five attempts.

The Soviet Union, runnerup behind the Netherlands in the 1988 European championship, now faces a struggle to advance.

The match was watched by a crowd of 42,960, officials said.

Salsabil wins Epsom Oaks

EPSOM, England (R) — Salsabil, the 2-1 favourite, completed the 1,000 Guineas-Epsom Oaks classic horse racing double in emphatic style Saturday.

The brilliant filly came home five lengths clear in the hands of veteran Willie Carson, with 50-1 outsider Game Plan in second place, a length ahead of 16-1 shot Knight's Baroness.

It was the third Group One success for Salsabil, who has now won five of her six starts. She toyed with her seven opponents and on this form looks the queen of Europe's middle distance fillies.

Outsider Cameo Performance made the early running, but there

was to be no repeat Epsom glory for jockey Pat Eddery, successful in the derby here Wednesday. When Quest for Fame completed a remarkable 663,000 double for his owner Khaled Abdullah.

Cameo Performance was done halfway through the 1½-mile (2.4 km) event, giving way to Ahead, ridden by Ray Cochrane, with Game Plan, the mount of Basil Marcus, also prominent.

But Salsabil and Carson were bidding their time and with two furlongs (400 metres) left swept to the front. The pair won unchallenged giving Carson, 47, his 15th English classic success and his fourth in the Oaks.

The two disappointments of the race were Irish 1,000 Guineas

winner In The Groove, ridden by American Cash Asmussen, and the Aga Khan's Khrtajana, the mount of Walter Swinburn.

Second favourite In The Groove was a shadow of the filly that won so decisively in Ireland and struggled all the way up the straight. She finished fourth.

Kartajana, the third favourite, game under pressure a long way out and was last.

Salsabil's victory gave Hamdan Al Maktoum, owner of the brilliant Nashwan, his first success in the Oaks. Trainer John Dunlop was recording his second win in the classic after Circus Plume in 1984.

Seles wins French title

PARIS (R) — Sixteen-year-old Yugoslav Monica Seles became the youngest-ever winner of the French tennis open women's singles title when she beat world number one Steffi Graf of West Germany 7-6 (8-6) 6-4 Saturday.

Seles, the second seed, scored a gripping victory with a superior demonstration of power, speed and talent over the top-seeded West German, the champion in 1987 and 1988.

The Yugoslav, who lives in Florida, saved four set points in a first set tie-break before streaking ahead in the second set to clinch the match and almost \$300,000 in prize money.

"I really wanted it and I've really worked hard with my father for it. I can't believe the thrill," Seles said after the match.

Seles' parents wept with joy in the stands of the packed Roland Garros stadium after Graf hit a forehand long to give her opponent the match.

Defeat against Seles was another bitter blow for the 20-year-old West German. She lost to Seles last month in Berlin — ending a 66-match unbeaten run and last year's French Open final to another youngster, Spain's Arantza Sanchez Vicario, then aged 17.

Seles, who said she was flying to Italy Sunday to watch World Cup soccer, showed no signs in her 88-minute dissection of Graf of the fatigue she has complained of during the two-week tournament.

She rushed to 3-0 ahead in a rain-interrupted first set before Graf clawed back to force a tie-break which she led 6-2 before the gusty Yugoslav took the next six points for the set.

Seles took the first three games of the second set, pinning Graf to the back of the court with her

powerful double-handed forehand and backhand.

Graf's normal computer-like strokes were also slightly off target as she sought her 10th grand slam title.

"I'm lacking confidence at the moment, making more mistakes and not making winners like I used to. There's something missing," a disappointed Graf said.

The last games of the second set were an enthralling series of long rallies between brutal hitters. Against the odds, it was Seles whose shots found the mark, while Graf's sliced backhands presented little challenge to the Yugoslav.

Seles Yugoslav, who reached the semifinals in Paris last year, rushed to the stands where her parents were dancing with joy before accepting the winner's trophy.

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GOREN BRIDGE

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COVER AN HONOR!

Both vulnerable. South deals.
NORTH
♠ 5 4 4 2
♥ 10 9 8
♦ K Q 7
♣ A 3
WEST
♠ A 7 3
♥ 10 6
♦ Q 10 8
♣ 10 4 3
EAST
♠ K Q 7
♥ J 10 7 2
♦ A K 9 7 5 4 2
♣ A 6
The bidding:
South West North East
1♣ Pass 1♠ Pass
2♣ Pass 2♦ Pass
3♣ Pass 3♦ Pass
4♣ Pass 4♦ Pass
Opening lead: Ace of ♠

There is more than one way to play a suit combination. Suppose you are declaring six hearts. How would you tackle the trump suit?

South's hand was a borderline decision and the opening bid of one heart followed by a jump to game depicted just about the full worth of the hand. North liked his support and prime cards enough to outbid the ace of clubs and South needed no more urging to contract for a small slam.

West led the ace of spades and continued with a low spade, declarer

winning. With 10 trumps in the combined hands, most declarers would lay down a high trump and concede one down when hearts broke 3-0. But there is a better way to handle the suit.

At trick three, declarer should cross to dummy and then lead the jack of hearts. Of course, if East follows with a low heart, declarer intends rising with a top honor and playing for a normal split. However, every now and then a careless East might choose to "cover and honor with an honor." When the bad break shows up it's a simple matter for declarer to return to the table in the other minor and this time take the marked finesse for the ten of hearts to land the slam.

Just in case you don't believe that any player worth his salt would cover the jack of hearts let us disillusion you. This hand is based on one played in a national championship some years ago and Dorothy Hayden Truscott pulled off just such a swindle!

RAINBOW

Michael Keaton
in

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CONCORD

CRAZY LEGS

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 677420

PHILADELPHIA

SECRET PLACES

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 634144

NIJOUN

Najla Fathi, Farouq Al Fishawi and Waheed Seif
in
THE THIEF

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

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PLAZA

Tom Cruise... in
"LOSIN IT"

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 10:30

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Ethnic clashes kill over 100 in Soviet Central Asian region

MOSCOW (R) — Ethnic clashes have killed more than 100 people in the Soviet Central Asian republic of Kirghizia in the past six days, the Soviet News Agency TASS said Saturday.

The region surrounding the town of Osh, where the conflict between Kirghiz and Uzbeks was sparked Monday, was "exceptionally tense," TASS added.

"According to the Kirghiz Interior Ministry, the death toll has reached 102, with 436 injured... 348 buildings have been burnt down, including 255 houses," it said.

The president of neighbouring Uzbekistan said Friday the ethnic violence was spreading into his republic and imposed a state of emergency in a number of districts around Andizhan, on the border between the two republics.

Extra Interior Ministry forces and regular troops have been flown into the region to quell the conflict. A Soviet Interior Ministry spokesman said Saturday the border between the two republics was now entirely sealed.

TASS said troops guarding the border had fired into the air Friday to disperse a crowd of 15,000 Uzbeks trying to get into Osh from Andizhan.

A traveller returning from Osh Friday said the towns were quiet but there were skirmishes in the country.

"Army helicopters are moving the Uzbeks out and taking them to safety to Uzbekistan. But the danger now comes from busloads of young Uzbeks heading back in the other direction wanting to take revenge," he said.

The violence, which started in Osh after a quarrel over allocation of land, is one of the worst outbreaks in two years of unrest which has killed hundreds of people in volatile Soviet Central Asia.

The Interior Ministry spokesman said earlier Saturday that the death toll had reached 83 but would undoubtedly rise.

"The figure is not final. It is likely we will find more bodies in the burnt-out houses," he said.

TASS said there had been no reports of trouble in the Kirghiz capital, Frunze, where authorities imposed a state of emergency Thursday.

The restrictions were introduced after a large crowd, demanding the resignation of the republic's leadership, tried to storm the Communist Party headquarters. TASS accused the protesters of trying to seize power.

An explosive mix of ethnic groups and years of pent-up

nationalism, inflamed by high unemployment and squalid living conditions, have created a tinderbox in the region.

In an article headlined "The Conflict Is Not Calming Down" the government daily Ivestia Friday said security forces thought the death toll was much higher than had been acknowledged.

In another development, Soviet forces in Armenia said Friday the republic's government was paralysed in the face of Nationalist guerrillas and urged Moscow to intervene.

Army, Interior Ministry and border forces in Armenia, where troops fought gunbattles with guerrillas three weeks ago, said in a statement issued by TASS, extremists were slandering and bating them.

"What are they counting on?" they asked. "They are counting on our patience, our restraint and on the fact that we are limited in our actions and not prepared to shoot at the people."

"They rely on the fact that they are not punished, that there is connivance. It is enough to say that there has not been one case in which measures have been taken over criminal action by terrorists against servicemen. The authorities are practically paralysed," the statement said.

Troops were sent to the southern republic two years ago to stop

clashes between Armenians and Azerbaijanis over Nagorno-Karabakh — a largely Armenian territory surrounded and governed by Azerbaijan.

Hundreds have been killed in the clashes. But in recent months, events have taken a more sinister turn for central Soviet authorities, with Armenians turning their anger on the party and the army.

Three weeks ago, 27 people were killed in armed clashes between Armenian radicals and soldiers.

The chief of Interior Ministry troops said after the clash he believed the local Communist authorities were tolerating the guerrillas and passively "conniving."

The army declaration concluded with a call for action.

"We appeal to you (the Soviet parliament) to make a political analysis of the events in Armenia and do everything possible to stabilise the situation in this bloodstained region," it said.

Soviet newspapers have published reports of nationalist, separatist guerrilla armies rallying in the countryside around Yerevan and on the border with Azerbaijan.

The Interior Ministry has reported frequent attacks on army posts and armories by groups which have built up stocks of rifles, sub-machine guns and explosives.

Havel's party wins landslide victory

PRAGUE (Agencies) — The Civic Forum movement, which spearheaded the overthrow of Communist rule seven months ago, won a landslide victory in Czechoslovakia's general election Saturday, according to an official-sanctioned exit poll.

The poll, published 30 minutes after voting ended in the country's first free elections in four decades, gave Civic Forum and its Slovak sister organisation Public Against Violence almost 50 per cent of the total vote for the two chambers of parliament.

The three-party Christian Democratic Union showed second with 15 per cent, with the Communists third on 10 per cent.

The poll was carried out among 10,400 people in 261 polling stations.

Polls opened at dawn on the second day of balloting and the first indications of trends were expected 30 minutes after they closed at 2 p.m. (1200 GMT). Final results were scheduled to be available Sunday.

Apart from the Christian democratic alliance only three other parties — the Communists, the Environmentalists Greens and the Social Democrats — were projected to do well enough to clear the 5-per cent hurdle needed to be represented in parliament, whose seats will be filled according to the proportion of votes parties receive.

Only in Slovakia, the more rural southeastern part of the nation, was the race expected to be relatively close, with the Christian Democrats in a good position to win in that republic.

The Czechoslovak News Agency (CTK) reported that 2.5 million Slovaks — 71.4 per cent of the region's electorate — had cast ballots by the end of the first day.

Cheney orders nuclear missiles off bombers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defence Secretary Dick Cheney Friday ordered the U.S. Air Force to remove short-range nuclear attack missiles from its bombers pending the outcome of safety studies of the warheads.

The directors of three U.S. nuclear weapons laboratories called for the withdrawal of the weapons two weeks ago during congressional testimony. They suggested there was a remote possibility the weapons could leak plutonium in an accident.

The missiles are known as the short-range attack missile-A, or SRAM-As, and are carried aboard the nation's 372 deployed B-52, B-1B and FB-111 bombers.

The air force has said that 1,500 of the weapons were produced between 1971 and 1975, but the current number deployed is classified.

In a statement issued at the Defence Department, Cheney said that the weapons would not be placed on board bombers on "ground alert."

Those are the nation's warplanes that are loaded with weapons, fuelled, and ready to fly within minutes. The number of aircraft on such alert is classified.

Cheney's statement said the weapons would be removed from the bombers pending the outcome of the safety studies being conducted by the air force and the Energy Department, whose labs and factories are responsible for producing the nation's nuclear weapons.

Cheney "signed the order today as a precaution," the statement said.

U.N. extends mandate for C. American force

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. Security Council has extended the mandate of the U.N. observer group in Central America for 19 days in order to complete the lagging demobilisation of the Nicaraguan rebels.

The U.N.-supervised demobilisation of more than 13,000 Nicaraguan "contra" resistance fighters and support personnel was to have been completed by June 10.

As of Thursday, 6,538 members of the Nicaraguan resistance had demobilised since the process began on May 8, according to U.N. officials.

The U.N. observers, known by the acronym ONUCA, have placed 995 military personnel in six border areas.

Demobilisation had lagged because some contra leaders had insisted on parallel dismantling of some forces of the former Sandinista army under the new, elected, non-Communist govern-

ment.

The unanimous decision by the Security Council forestalled a confrontation between the United States, which backs the contra, and Cuba, supporter of the former leftist Sandinista government.

"It would be a mistake for ONUCA, which has placed such a central part in making demobilisation possible, to be withdrawn when the work is now on the whole proceeding rapidly and its completion is within reach," the secretary-general told the council Friday.

He said the Nicaraguan government also wants ONUCA's mandate extended.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said earlier that the slow demobilisation presented a "dangerous dilemma" to the United Nations, which established ONUCA to monitor the ceasefire and disarm the rebels.

Peruvian candidates end bitter campaign on conciliatory note

LIMA (R) — Novelist Mario Vargas Llosa and Japanese immigrants' son Alberto Fujimori made emotional last-minute appeals to try to woo voters before Peru's presidential election Sunday.

Ending a bitter campaign that polarised Peru's society along class and religious lines, both candidates struck conciliatory notes in separate television messages Friday night.

"Peru is like a book, an ancient and beautiful book but still unfinished," said Vargas Llosa, an internationally known writer who has never held elective office.

"Now, Peruvians, let's give a happy ending to the book of our history... by turning back hunger, misery, violence with more jobs, opportunity," he said in a poetic, at times melodramatic, address.

Whoever wins will lead a nation beset by a brutal Maoist

guerrilla war, crippling strikes, a booming narcotics trade and the worst economic crisis in Peru's modern history.

Fujimori, an agronomist and political novice, set aside bitter attacks on Vargas Llosa to urge Peruvians to join forces to defeat the country's crushing problems.

"Our people will not surrender to adversity... Peru, united, can defeat backwardness and terror," he said in a brief television speech closing his campaign.

Peruvian law bars campaigning on the day before the voting.

The campaign for the run-off election has polarised the country along class lines, with the rich backing centre-right Vargas Llosa and the poor mainly behind Fujimori, a centrist and independent.

Simmering racial and religious divisions, centring on Fujimori's

Japanese ancestry and his support among Protestant Evangelists in this overwhelmingly Catholic country, have also burst open by the campaign.

Fujimori, who surged from nowhere to finish just behind Vargas Llosa in the first round of voting on April 8, has built his campaign on opposition to Vargas Llosa's so-called shock plans to revive the economy.

Fujimori and leftist leaders who back him say Vargas Llosa's plans to privatise state-owned firms and end food subsidies would throw millions of Peruvians out of work and plunge industry into a recession from which it may never recover.

Pollsters said the roller-coaster race was now close, with the two candidates apparently dead-even at about 40 per cent each in the quest to succeed outgoing, centre-left President Alan Garcia.

Canadian leaders break deadlock over Quebec

OTTAWA (R) — Canada's leaders said Saturday they had broken a bitter deadlock over Quebec with an agreement in principle recognising the French-speaking province's special status and easing fears that Canada could break up.

"The mission is accomplished," a weary Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa said after a 13-hour bargaining session on his province's role in the Canadian confederation.

"It completes a most important constitutional process to making the country whole again," a bagdad Prime Minister Brian Mulroney told reporters after the tense talks.

The weary leaders had been closeted in a converted railway station for as many as 14 hours a day since last Sunday trying to win over provinces opposed to granting Quebec special status under the so-called Meech Lake constitutional accord protecting

its culture in largely English-speaking Canada.

The accord, under which Quebec agreed to sign the 1982 constitution removing the last vestiges of British control over Canada, will die if Saturday's agreement is not ratified by June 23. Legal experts were drafting a final text expected to be sealed and made public later Saturday.

Newfoundland Premier Clyde Wells said the premiers were to deal with one remaining roadblock to the accord when they met again.

"You cannot ever expect to come and get everything you wanted but we certainly got a significant proportion of what we were after," Manitoba Premier Gary Filmon told reporters.

Newfoundland and Manitoba have been the two diehard opponents of the agreement reached at Meech Lake, a government retreat in Quebec's Gatineau Hills.

Hungary to quit Warsaw Pact by late 1991

BUDAPEST (R) — Hungarian Defence Minister Lajos Tur said Hungary wanted to leave the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact by late 1991 and would not take part in its military exercises this year.

Hungary's first post-Communist government took office in May pledging to launch talks on leaving the seven-nation military alliance, without setting a departure deadline.

Fur's statement marked the first time Hungary had publicly set a date on leaving the pact which has been hit by the collapse of old-style Communism in the Soviet Union's Eastern European allies.

He spoke in Moscow to the Hungarian News Agency (MTI), monitored in Budapest, after a Warsaw Pact summit Thursday and meetings with Soviet and Warsaw Pact military officials Friday.

MTI quoted Fur as saying: "During the talks, I stated that Hungary was not to take part in the Warsaw Pact military exercises this year and intended to place the Hungarian army fully under national command."

"I also said this had partly to do with the review of the Warsaw Pact just now initiated and partly with Hungary's wish to cancel its Warsaw Pact membership by late next year."

"Until then, the emphasis should be laid on (the Pact's) political character. Besides, the country's economic situation does not allow for spending millions on manoeuvres."

Warsaw Pact leaders declared their intention Thursday to review the nature of the group and transform it into "an alliance of sovereign and equal states resting on democratic principles."

Fur said Soviet defence Minister Dmitry Yazov seemed to accept the Hungarian position but that the idea seemed "quite repulsive" to the supreme military leaders of the Warsaw Pact.

Hungary tried to leave the Warsaw Pact at the height of the 1956 uprising against Soviet domination, but was thwarted by an invasion of Soviet tanks.

Prime Minister Imre Nagy, who made the declaration in 1956 was executed for treason in 1958.

Around 65,000 Soviet troops were subsequently stationed in Hungary until a partial withdrawal began last year.

Moscow agreed earlier this year to remove the remaining 50,000 troops by mid-1991.

Thatcher flies to Kiev

KIEV, Soviet Union (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher expressed support to a group of six Soviet "refuseniks" Saturday before flying from Moscow to the scenic Ukrainian capital of Kiev.

During her stay in Kiev, on the third day of a four-day visit to the Soviet Union, Thatcher visited the Babi Yar monument to 100,000 citizens shot by occupying German forces during World War II.

In a last-minute addition to her programme, Thatcher was scheduled to hold a 30-minute meeting with around 70 of the 450 deputies to the Ukraine Supreme Soviet (parliament) at their request.

She began her day in the Ukrainian capital, its boulevards lush and green in contrast to the drabness of Moscow, by visiting a month-long British trade fair and exhibition of the "British way of life."

Greeted by the drums and bagpipes of the band of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, Thatcher toured a replica of a British high street and visited a two-storey semi-detached house meant to depict the home life of an average family in central England.

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IRA killings expose strains in movement

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — Gerry Adams, the staunchest public defender of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), has said that the killing of a reserve police officer and his wife was "totally wrong."

"You don't expect me to say that it was a good operation when it patently was not," said Adams, the president of Sinn Fein, the IRA's political wing.

Last week, Adams criticised the mistaken killing of two Australian tourists in the Dutch town of Roermond on May 27 as "inexcusable and unjustifiable."

However, Adams also told reporters in London this week that he regards the IRA as "freedom fighters."

Within two weeks, the IRA has killed six people: attorneys Stephen Melrose and Nicholas Spanos in Roermond; British army Pvt. William Robert Davies, 19, on June 1 in Lichfield; British army Maj. Michael John Dillon-Lee 34, in Dortmund, West Germany, and James Sefton, 65, and Ellen Sefton, 66, in Belfast.

The Seftons were killed by a bomb planted on their car.

"What happened to those two old people was totally wrong," Adams said Thursday.

Meeting with journalists Friday, Adams said it was not IRA policy to attack retired police officers.

"That's not a principle they have stuck religiously by any means," Robin Wilson, editor of Fortnight, a Belfast-based political journal, said in an interview.

In January 1989, Adams declared that murders of civilians hurt the Republican movement and he urged the guerrillas to be "careful, and careful again."

Two months later, an IRA unit shot and killed three civilians in Coagh, and the next month an IRA bomb killed a 20-year-old Roman Catholic woman in War-repoint.

More recent IRA "mistakes" included the killing of Heidi Hazell, 26-year-old German wife of a British soldier in September, the slaying of the 6-month-old daughter of a British soldier in Germany the following month, and the death of 16-year-old Terry Love, killed by debris from an IRA bomb while watching a parade in Londonderry in January.

Some Sinn Fein activists have blamed such operations for the decline in the party's vote in national elections from a high of 13.4 per cent in 1983 to 11.4 per cent in 1987.

Adams was in London this week to promote his latest book, Cage Eleven, about his experiences in prison. Questions, however, inevitably focused on the killings in Roermond, Lichfield and Dortmund.

"I have been very critical of the IRA. I have made my criticisms known in a principled way where it matters, in Republican circles as well as the mass media," Adams said.

"There can be no doubt where Sinn Fein stands on actions which lead to the deaths of civilians or injuries to civilians."

But he did not criticise the killing of soldiers.

"I don't want to see anyone killed, much less a 19-year-old soldier, an Australian citizen or an Irish citizen, but there is a conflict," he said.

"There is a war going on. People join armies to fight."

Adams said Wilson, is "getting himself into what seems to anybody on the outside as an extraordinary state of contortion where he says he will not disown the IRA but it seems that every other IRA incident he manages to disown."

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COLUMN

Police seize TVs, VCRs from rich Karachi prisoners

KARACHI (R) — Pakistani police raided the high-security Karachi jail for weapons but instead found prisoners with illegal luxury items such as television sets and video-cassette recorders. The raid was carried out after reports that some of the 4,000 prisoners in the 19th century jail had weapons for a possible jail-break, the police said Saturday. "No arms were recovered," a jail official said. However, 13 televisions, 32 radios, seven video-cassette recorders and 23 video cassettes had been recovered, police said.

Boy who received rare blood transplant discharged

CINCINNATI, Ohio (R) — A six-year-old boy who underwent a rare bone marrow transplant using umbilical cord blood from his infant brother has been discharged from hospital, doctors said Friday. The procedure — the first operation of its kind in the United States and only the third in the world — was pronounced a success last month by physicians at Children's Hospital Medical Centre. But Eric Miller of McFarland, Wisconsin, will continue with outpatient treatment and will have to be kept in isolation because his immune system is suppressed to enable the transplant to take, the announcement said. The boy, who suffered from a rare disorder known as Fanconi's Anemia, was given blood collected from the umbilical cord of his brother Ethan at the time of his birth seven months ago. Doctors said the blood is rich in the kind of cells that cause bone marrow to grow.

Man who died is given job back

SYDNEY (AP) — A man who died while going to a hearing to fight his dismissal has been reinstated to his job. The State Industrial Commission made its decision on the unidentified 62-year-old man's family can collect an 8,000-dollar (\$6,160) lump-sum pension payout. The commission ruled that Norman Ross disallows fired the 10-year employee unfairly for failing to check a truckload of stock, some of which later turned out to be missing. But Norman Ross was short-staffed at the time, and the commission ruled that the worker could not reasonably have been expected to check the load. "We believe it is the first case in NSW (New South Wales state) where an organisation has sought reinstatement retroactively after an employee's death," said Joe de Bruyn, secretary of the shop. Distributive and Allied Employees Union, which pursued the case.

World Cup highlights take to the skies

ROME (R) — Passengers on long-haul flights will at least have three European airlines will get a chance to watch World Cup soccer matches. Alitalia, state airline of host nation Italy, Swissair and Dutch carrier KLM all announced that they would keep high-flying fans in touch with video highlights. Swissair and KLM will show 10-minute synopses of matches the day after they are played, but only on outbound flights. A Swissair spokesman in Zurich said. Alitalia said it would show all of Italy's matches and games of other countries in the 24-nation tournament depending on destinations.

Car accident causes unwanted pregnancy

NAPLES, Italy (R) — A Naples motorist warned the man who hit his parked car to pay damages because the accident made his girlfriend pregnant. The bump caused him to "lose control," he said. "We were minding our own business when we were hit by the other car and that's when my girlfriend became pregnant," he said in a claim on a Naples car insurance company. He said that on March 30 they were in his small Fiat Panda overlooking the Bay of Naples when the parked Panda was hit by a larger Fiat Regatta. An insurance company spokeswoman said the man, whose name and age were not disclosed, "warned damages because he and his girlfriend have not yet married. It would be a difficult case for loss adjusters to settle, she said, partly because of the lack of photographic evidence."

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